

BLADE OF HEAVEN



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BLADE OF HEAVEN™



ART BY
9 KYUNG-IL YANG
STORY BY
YONG-SU HWANG

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Manga
Action/Fantasy
US \$9.99
CAN \$12.50
UK £6.99

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Sachunsa returns to the island to find that although he has obtained the crystal containing the heat energy of the Human Face Fire Dragon, it is impossible for the Commander of the Continental Alliance Military to eat it. This is due to the strict law of Snail Province—the law of utter submission to the Thief King! Thus begins Sachunsa's one-man rebellion against all that Snail Province stands for...



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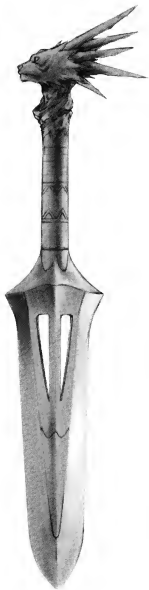
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PREVIOUSLY IN

BLADE OF HEAVEN



AS PRINCESS RADDOME
AND HER COMPANIONS
VALIANTLY ATTEMPTED TO
FEND OFF THE GATEWAY
GUARDIANS, SOMA FOUGHT
A PITCHED BATTLE AGAINST
THE VICIOUS KAY, WHO
DESPERATELY COVETED THE
CHUNWANGSHIN SWORD.
WHEN SOMA FELL OFF THE
CLIFF INTO THE RAGING
WATERS BELOW, KAY BELIEVED
HE HAD WON. BUT IT SEEMS
THAT SOMA MAY HAVE
ELUDED THE FINALITY OF
DEATH... SOME TIME LATER,
A RASCALLY THIEF NAMED
SACHUNSA FINDS HIMSELF
ESCORTING A MUTE PRINCESS
ACROSS DANGEROUS
TERRITORY ON A DESPERATE
MISSION. INCREASINGLY,
IT BECOMES CLEARER THAT
SACHUNSA AND SOMA HAVE
MORE IN COMMON THAN AN
ACERBIC WIT...

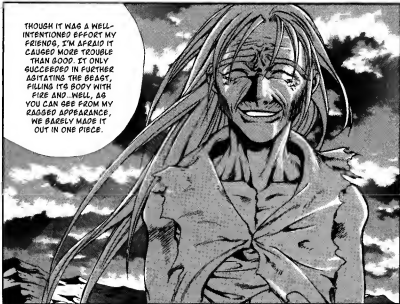








HEH HEH...NOW
I SEE WHO
WOKE THE
HUMAN FACE
FIRE DRAGON
FROM ITS
SLUMBER...



THOUGH IT WAS A WELL-
INTENTIONED EFFORT MY
FRIENDS, I'M AFRAID IT
CAUSED MORE TROUBLE
THAN GOOD. IT ONLY
SUCCEEDED IN FURTHER
AGITATING THE BEAST,
FILLING ITS BODY WITH
FIRE AND... WELL, AS
YOU CAN SEE FROM MY
RAGGED APPEARANCE,
WE BARELY MADE IT
OUT IN ONE PIECE.



STAY BACK,
CRUSHER!

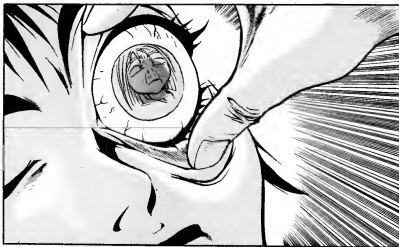


EASY, MY
FIERCE
FEATHERED
FRIEND.
THERE'S NO
NEED FOR
YOU TO BE
SO WARY
OF ME...!

I'M A
FRIEND
OF YOUR
MASTER'S.
I MEAN
NEITHER
YOU NOR
HIM ANY
HARM.



HO HO HO!
YOU'RE
PERFECTLY
WELCOME!



HMM... I SEE THE
TOXINS FROM THE
GAKCHECHOONS
ARE STILL COURSEING
THROUGH HIS VEINS...
BUT NEVER FEAR!
MY TOXIN WINE
SHOULD FLUSH IT
OUT IN NO TIME...



FROM NOW
ON, NO ONE
WILL BE ABLE
TO INVADE
YOUR BODY!
HEH HEH...

LOOK AT YOU
THERE, NAPPING
PEACEFULLY... WHILE
I'M THE ONE WHO
DID ALL THE WORK!



I WONDER HOW
FAR I CAN
STRETCH IT...



OOPS!
ERM, JUST
K-KIDDING!
HEH HEH!
NICE KILLER
CHICKENS...



FEH.
THE MORE
I LOOK
AT HIM,
THE MORE
I THINK
IT'S ALL A
WASTE.



IF ONLY WE
DIDN'T HAVE
THAT RULE ABOUT
TRANSFERRING
THE MARTIAL
ART OF THE
DEMON MAJEH
TO OUTSIDERS...

HUH?
WHAT AM I
SAYING...?!



I JUST HOPE SOME
OF MY MARTIAL ARTS
TEACHINGS DURING
THE BATTLE INSIDE
THE DRAGON MANAGED
TO PENETRATE THAT
THICK SKULL OF HIS.



DRAT! I DIDN'T REALIZE
IT WAS SO LATE...!!



WHAT A FIASCO!
I'M LATE FOR MY
APPOINTMENT!!

I MUST
LEAVE NOW.
MY FRIENDS... BUT
WE'LL SEE EACH
OTHER AGAIN
SOON ENOUGH.



THAT WASN'T
A REQUEST,
CAUSHER! THAT'S
AN ORDER! NOW
GET MOVING!



TAKE CARE
OF HIM, MY
FRIENDS!



CAUGHT YA, YA
BACKSTABBING
BUZZARD! YOU WERE
TRYING TO NIBBLE ON
ME, WEREN'T YA?!



SOME BACKUP
I HAVE! WHERE WERE
YOU WHILE THAT OLD
PERVERT RODE ME AROUND
LIKE A PONY, HUM?! I BET
YOU FOUND A NICE, COMFY
HIDEY-HOLE, DIDN'T YA?!

WAIT...WHERE AM
I? THE LAST THING
I REMEMBER WAS
BEING ALMOST
EATEN BY THE
GAKCHESCHOONG...
AND...OH! WHERE IS
THAT OLD COOT?!



WELL, WHAT ARE WE
WAITING FOR?! I HAVE
THE CURE SHE NEEDS--
SO LET'S GET BACK
TO SNAIL PROVINCE!!

EEP! AND
WHEN DID
YOU GUYS
GET HERE?!



WAIT...THAT'S
RIGHT...I'M ON
A MISSION TO
SAVE THAT HOT
CHICK'S LIFE!



Continental Alliance Military





BY THE AUTHORITY
OF THE MACHUN
WEST GATE, ONE OF THE
FOUR GREAT GENERALS
OF MACHUNROO--TELL
ME ALL YOU KNOW!



WEST...EAST...I
SEE YOU'RE
BOTH HERE.



DID I MISS
ANYTHING?
HEE HEE...



I WOULD'VE BEEN
HERE SOONER
BUT I MET THIS
GOOFY LITTLE
LOUD-MOUTHER
KID, AND WELL...

...YOU KNOW HOW IT GOES
WHEN YOU'RE HANDING
OUT IN THE BOWELS
OF A BAR DURING
TIME KINDA JUST GLIPS
AWAY. BUT AS A PEACE
OFFERING, I'LL GIVE YOU
GUYS SOME OF MY TORN
MINE, PILES OF CRAPSHIT!



YEEESH! I'VE RECEIVED WARMER
WELCOMES AT SUNDAY FLOGGINGS!
I SEE YOUR GOFT, NEW WOMANLY
FORM HAS YET TO DILUTE THAT
FIERY TEMPER OF YOURS!



SOUTH, I
AM NOT NOW, NOR
HAVE I EVER BEEN IN
THE MOOD FOR YOUR
JOKES OR BRIGUES. AND
ANY MORE OBSERVATIONS
ON MY "GOFT WOMANLY
FORM" AND I WILL OBLIGINGLY
INTRODUCE YOU TO THE
RIGIDNESS OF MY STEEL.

EASY. I OWE! THE JOKE
STORE IS OFFICIALLY CLOSED!
THOUGH, WHEN YOU SAY "RIGID
STEEL," YOU ARE TALKING
ABOUT YOUR SWORD AND
NOT...YENOW LIKE, I DIDN'T
KNOW IF YOU STILL HAD A
MAN'S...AHEM. NEVER MIND.



AND HEY...
EVERYONE
KNOWS THAT
I'LL NEVER BE
WELCOMED WITH
OPEN ARMS...



...BUT...

...NEITHER
WILL YOU
THO,
EITHER.



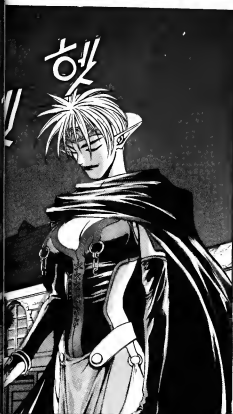
THERE IS
ALWAYS THE STENCH
OF BLOOD AROUND THE
FOUR GENERALS OF
THE MOCHUNROO...

ISN'T
THAT
RIGHT,
MUTE?

The four generals are named after the position they have been raised to defend—Machen East Gate, West Gate, South Gate and North Gate. Each of them practices a distinct but deadly style of martial arts. Though it goes without question that their skills are masterful, only Lord Mochunroo knows the full range of their abilities. They are referred to as the "Bringers of Death" by other members of the Mages, and are a source of terror for all.



The Four Great Generals of the Mochunroo:
The four individuals that represent
the mysterious Mochunroo.





HEE!

HEE
HEE!

Machun East Gate:
Always covered by a long black cloak, East is by far the most mysterious of the four. Because of his ability to assume a thousand faces and transform an command, only Lord Machunroo knows his true identity or has heard his true voice.

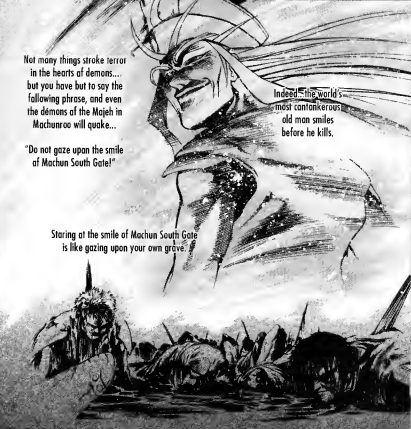


Machun South Gate:
Crazy drunk buzzard.
Also known as
Chweesaengmongso.

Not many things stroke terror in the hearts of demons... but you have but to say the following phrase, and even the demons of the Majeh in Machunroo will quake...

"Do not gaze upon the smile of Machun South Gate!"

Staring at the smile of Machun South Gate is like gazing upon your own grave.



Indeed...the world's most cantankerous old man smiles before he kills.



HMM...SO HE SEEKS
THE BLADE...



IMPUDENT FOOL
NOTHING BUT A LOWLY
ENVOY, AND YET HE
HAS UNFINITELY
GREAT ASPIRATIONS.



HE'S PLOTTING
HIGH TREASON
AGAINST THE
MACHUNROO
WITH HIS LOW
STATUS AS
A MAJER...

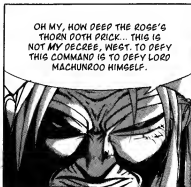


SUCH
AMBITION
MUST BE
MATCHED
WITH EQUAL
RETRIBUTION.



WEST... OUR DUTY
LIES TO PUNISH OR
INTERFERE WITH
TRAITORS OR HUMANS.
WE'RE TO SIMPLY
OBSERVE--
NOTHING MORE.

CHASTISING
ME ON MY
"OUTRAGE"
WOULD BE
MUCH MORE
CREDIBLE IF
YOU DIDN'T
SHOW UP LATE
STINKING OF
CHEAP ALB,
OLD MAN.



OH MY, HOW DEEP THE ROSE'S
THORN DOOTH PRICK... THIS IS
NOT MY DECREE, WEST. TO DEFY
THIS COMMAND IS TO DEFY LORD
MACHUNROO HIMSELF.



HMPH...

FINE!



I'LL JUST
KEEP AN EYE
ON HIM...
FOR NOW!

HOWEVER...



...THIS CHANGES
NOTHING! THOSE
WHO BETRAY
MACHUNROO WILL
FACE MY WRATH!

Machun West Gate:

A hermaphroditic being who
is a man for half the year
and a woman the other half.
A masterful killer, he/she has
tens of thousands of methods
to slaughter. Thus it is said "If
perchance the four generals of
the Machuense are after you,
seek the Machun West Gate!
He/she will kill you in the
most beautiful way possible!"

And lastly...

North fought on the frontlines for the Majeh during the Great War between Heaven and Earth. His tremendous power made him one of Heaven's most formidable foes.

...there's Machon North Gate!

Why such a strong individual would serve another is a mystery...

However, what they all failed to realize is that the power that he displayed during the war tapped only a small amount of his abilities.

SOSONG JA!

Just as all the old legends of the Majeh tell us, if he wants something—he takes it! So when Lord Machonroo needed to send someone to retrieve his son, Mokumroo, he sent North because of his limitless ability.



SHE'S
NOT HERE,
EITHER!



WHERE
DID THE
COMMANDER
GO?!



THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT! YOU
CHASED HER OFF WITH YOUR
"CHARMING" FAST JOKES AND
TALL TALK OF MASCUINITY!



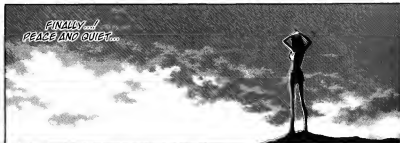
MY FAULT?? PUN-
DRAH?? I HADN'T THE
ONE THAT TOOK MY
HEART OFF TO KNOW
HOW NASTY YOU CALLED
THE THIN PIECE OF
MOUNTAIN MEAT?



YOU'RE JUST MAD YOU
COULDN'T DO IT BECAUSE
YOU GOT MEN-BOOBS!
WHAT ARE THOSE,
D-CUPS NOW?!

OH, DON'T WORRY
YOUR MEN-BOOBS
ARE A GREAT TASTE
MATELLI CONFECTION!
SO, SURE, WITH ALL THE
SQUISHING OF JERSEY I
NEED WHEN YOU TOOK
YOUR SHIRT OFF...

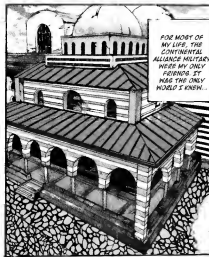
I THOUGHT
WE WERE BEING
ATTACKED BY
PISSONG!



FINALLY...!
PEACE AND QUIET...

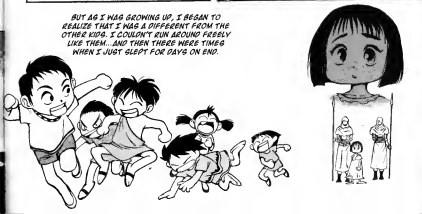


THOUGH I SHOULD BE USED TO IT BY NOW,
SINCE I'VE BEEN UNDER GUARD AS
LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER...



FOR MOST OF
MY LIFE, THE
CONTINENTAL
ALLIANCE MILITARY
WERE MY ONLY
FRIENDS. IT
WAS THE ONLY
MODEL I KNEW.

BUT AS I WAS GROWING UP, I BEGAN TO
REALIZE THAT I WAS A DIFFERENT FROM THE
OTHER KIDS. I COULDN'T RUN AROUND FREELY
LIKE THEM. AND THEN THERE WERE TIMES
WHEN I JUST SLEPT FOR DAYS ON END.

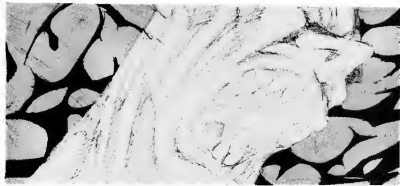
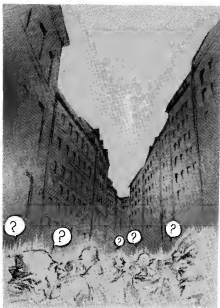






BLADE OF H HEAVEN







THE MORE THEY
HURT ME... THE MORE
DETERMINED I BECAME.



THERE IS A
TIME FOR EVERY
STRIKE! NOW
ISN'T IT!

BEFORE YOU
ATTACK THE
MAJEH, YOU
MUST FIRST
ANNIHILATE
THE THIEVES
OF SNAIL
PROVINCE!

RIGHT NOW,
THEY'RE JUST
PILLAGING THE
VILLAGES—BUT
ONCE WE LAUNCH
OUR FULL-SCALE
CAMPAIGN ON THE
MAJEH, THOSE
GREEDY BASTARDS
WILL ATTACK US
FROM THE REAR,
I'M SURE OF IT!

NOT ONLY THAT,
BUT THE THIEVES
OF SNAIL PROVINCE
ARE RUMORED TO
BE OF THE MOST
VICIOUS AND WICKED
DISPOSITION!
THEY'RE NOTHING
BUT SOCIETY'S
REJECTS! SO THE
SOONER WE GET RID
OF THEM, THE BE-



ARE THEY
REALLY AS
"VICIOUS" AS
YOU SAY? I
WONDER...

COMMANDER!

COMMANDER?!



WITH THEIR STRANGE
APPEARANCE AND LACK OF
ANY DISCERNABLE "MORALE,
THEY'VE BEEN FORGIVEN
BY THE ENTIRE WORLD.

SNAIL-PROVINCE...
HUH.

IF THAT'S
TRUE, THEN
LEAVE SNAIL
PROVINCE
TO ME.

SURE, THEY'RE DIFFERENT
FROM THE PEOPLE I GREW
UP AROUND...BUT IN A
POSITIVE WAY. THEY LACK
SELF-CENTEREDNESS OR
OVERGROWN EMOTION.
THEY ARE KIND AND
PURE OF HEART...

IN A WAY, THAT MAKES
IT EVEN MORE DIFFICULT...
BECAUSE NOW THEY ARE
YET ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL
PART OF THE WORLD THAT
I'LL LOVE ONCE I SEE IT.

A...&CHOO!!

THAT IS THE
MOST HEART
WRENCHING
OF ALL...

!
PEOPLE
PEOPLE

SEP! IT'S
OORAMMAMA...!!





WHO GOES THERE?!



THIS PLACE IS
OFF LIMITS,
HONEY!

THOSE WHO
TRESPASS
WILL PAY WITH
THEIR LIVES!



THERE'S AN INTERLUDE
AT THE TEMPLE
OF HEROBG...!!



COULD IT
BE...?!



I-I...JUST
GOT L-LOST...
I-I DIDN'T
MEAN TO...



COMMANDER!



I THINK THERE'S
BEEN A SLIGHT
MISUNDERSTANDING...
YOU SEE, THIS
PERSON IS OUR
GUEST...



I DON'T CARE
IF IT WAS YER
DEAR OLD
GRANNY! THIS
IS A HOLY
SANCTUARY
FOR THE THIEF
KING!!



KILLING HER IS
BACKED BY THE LAW
OF SNAIL PROVINCE!



WAIT!! PLEASE!!



WHAT'S
THIS, YOU TUB OF
BUTTS?! ARE YOU
CHALLENGING MY
AUTHORITY?!



THERE'S ROOM FOR
TWO RECES ON MY
CHOPPING BLOCK--EVEN
ONE AS CHUBBY
AS YOU'RE!!



STAND
DOWN,
FAT
STUFF!



OORAMMAMA!



YOU CAN'T REALLY
MEAN THAT!

YOU DO REALIZE
THEY'RE TRYING
TO KILL THE
COMMANDER,
RIGHT?!



SH-SHE JUST MIANBOED
IN HERE BY ACCIDENT!
SHE DIDN'T MEAN
NO DISRESPECT!

YOU CAN'T LET
THEM DO THIS!!



WELL?! SAY
SOMETHING!!

YOU...YOU
CAN'T BE
SERIOUS...!



THERE
IS
NOTHING
WE CAN
DO.



WE CANNOT
DISOBEY THE
LAWS OF SNAIL
PROVINCE...

YOU
TOO, OLD
MAN...?!



BLADE OF HEAVEN





SO...WHAT
ARE YOU
GUYS ALL
DOING
HERE?

ARE YOU TWO
STILL GEPIN'
ABOUT WHO
POPPED OUT
OF YOUR MOM
FIRST? YOU
GUYS ARE SUCH
CHARACTERS...!

UH...IT'S
NOT LIKE
THAT...



HIYA TOOTS!
JUST THE DAMEL
I WAS LOOKING
FOR... LOOKIT WHAT
DADDY BROUGHT
YA BACK FROM
THE STORE...



DON'T TAKE THIS THE
WRONG WAY, NOW
SEE, IF YOU KISS THE
HOSTAGE-O-BIG, THEN
GO DOES OUR SHOT
AT EXTORTING MONEY
FROM THE CONTINENTAL
ALLIANCE? I MEAN, DON'T
THINK I DID IT BECAUSE I
LIKE YOU OR ANYTHING...

.....?

THAT CRYSTAL...!
IT CONTAINS
THE ENERGY OF
THE HUMAN FACE
FIRE DRAGON!!



HOLY CRAP! THAT'S THE
HEART OF THE HUMAN FACE
FIRE DRAGON! SACHUNGA,
YOU FIEND, YOU ACTUALLY
PULLED IT OFF-EE, OUT!!



NOW THE
COMMANDER
CAN LIV--
MMPH!!



PLAK! WHAT GIVES?!
WHY ARE YOU PUTTING
YOUR DIRTY MITTS
ON MY MOUTH?!



SHUT UP, STUPO!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN
THE LAW OF SNAIL
PROVINCE?!



WELL? YOU WAITING
FOR THE SALT AND
PEPPER OR WHAT?
DIG IN, ALREADY!

OR WAS DYING
A SLOW, PAINFUL
DEATH PART OF YOUR
DAY'S TO-DO LIST?

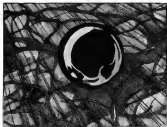


THE LAW-
OH CRAP...!!



STOP
RIGHT
THERE!!





THINK!

YOU HAVE ANY IDEA OF WHAT I WENT THROUGH TO GET THIS THING?! THAT OLD LOON WENT **COMMANDO!** DON'T ASK ME HOW I KNOW. I JUST DO, OKAY?!



THE HELL'D YOU DO THAT FOR?!



NO ONE CAN TOUCH IT YET.



YOU HAVE BROKEN THE **FIRST LAW** OF SNAIL PROVINCE...



ALL POTIONS AND MEDICINES BROUGHT FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD ARE TO FIRST BE ADMINISTERED TO THE DISEASED AND WEAK, AND THEN DISTRIBUTED EQUALLY AMONG EVERYONE ELSE. HOWEVER...IN THE CASE OF **PRICELESS TREASURE** SUCH AS THIS, OWNERSHIP AUTOMATICALLY GOES TO THE THIEF KING.



SHOULD THIS LAW BE BROKEN, WE SHALL CONFISCATE THE POTION AND EXPEL HE WHO HAS BROKEN IT!



COME ON, GUY...WHY ARE YOU BEING SO UPTIGHT ABOUT THIS DUMB LITTLE CRYSTAL...



LOOK...THE THIEF KING HAS NO IDEA THIS IS EVEN HERE...SO WHY DON'T WE JUST MAKE LIKE THIS NEVER HAPPENED, 'KAY? IT'LL BE OUR L'il OLD SECRET! HEB!



A CHALLENGE TO THE LAW OF SNAIL PROVINCE IS PUNISHABLE BY DEATH.



ALL RIGHT... ALL RIGHT, MR. RUIBROON! GEEZ, I BET YOU BROUGHT AN APPLE TO THE TEACHERS EVERY DAY, YOO, RUH?





YOU BROUGHT
THIS ON
YOURSELF!!



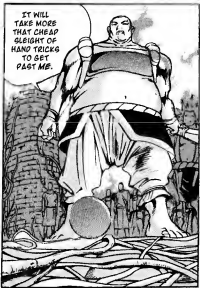
OPEN WIDE,
TOOTS! IT'S
DINNER
TIME!!



HURK!



SACHUNGA!!



IT WILL
TAKE MORE
THAT CHEAP
SLEIGHT OF
HAND TRICKS
TO GET
PAST ME.



CONSIDER THAT
A WARNING SHOT
ACROSS THE BOW.
NEXT TIME YOU
TRY THAT, YOU'LL
FIND NO MERCY
HERE. AS YOU CAN
PLAINLY SEE, IT'S
USELESS TO RESIST.

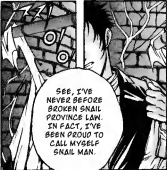


USELESS
TO RESIST,
HUN? I BET
YOU SAY THE
SAME THING
TO THAT
LASSO YOU
CALL A BELT,
DON'T 'CHA?



HOWEVER,
IF OBEYING
PROVINCE LAW
MEANS THAT
A YOUNG GUY
MUST DIE GO
THE KING CAN
ADD ANOTHER
SHINY THING
THOUSANDS OF
OTHER SHINY
THINGS. THEN WE
HAVE A SERIOUS
CONFLICT OF
INTEREST.

IF
THAT'S
WHAT IT
TAKES TO
BE A SNAIL
PROVINCE
MAN, THEN
CONSIDER
THIS MY
RETIREMENT
SPEECH.



SEE, I'VE
NEVER BEFORE
BROKEN SNAIL
PROVINCE LAW.
IN FACT, I'VE
BEEN PROUD TO
CALL MYSELF
SNAIL MAN.



SACHUNGA!
DON'T BE A
FOOL!!



TREAD LIGHTLY,
BOY. THE PATH
YOU'RE CHOOSING
IS FILLED WITH MUCH
BLOODSHED...AND
DEAD.

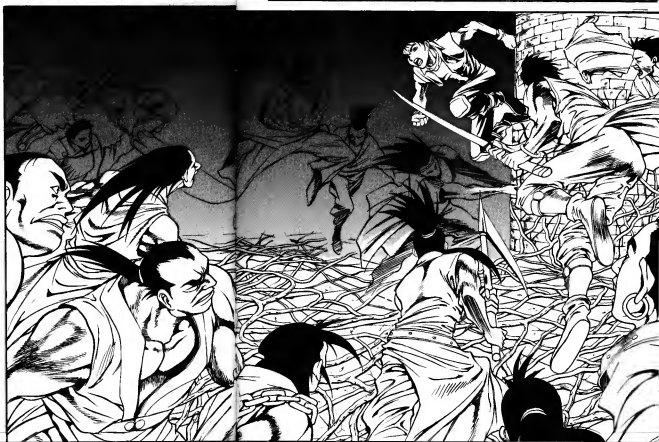


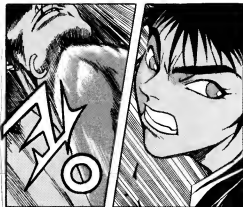
THE LAW IS A SYMBOL
OF TRUST AND LOYALTY!
INNOCENT OR NOT,
OUTSIDER OR NOT, IT MUST
BE UPHELD TO MAINTAIN
OUR WAY OF LIFE!

A SNAIL PROVINCE
WITHOUT LAW IS NO
DIFFERENT FROM A DEN
OF COMMON THIEVES!
WITHOUT IT, WE WOULD BE
OPENING EACH OTHER'S
THROATS FOR A MERE
THIMBLE OF WINE!



WHAT WE MUST DO NOW IS
NOT PERSONAL, SACHUNGA!
IT IS MERELY A WAY OF
MAINTAINING ORDER!!





OORAMMAMA!
IF WE DON'T
DO SOMETHING,
SACHUNSA
WILL DIE!!



I AGREE, IF THE LAW IS
FLAWED, WE MUST CORRECT
IT. HOWEVER, I AM BUT ONE
DISSENTING VOICE IN AN
OCEAN OF SUPPORTERS. THE
LAW IS THE WILL OF THE MANY...
AND I'M AFRAID HE'S GOING
UP AGAINST THE IMPOSSIBLE



THEN DOES
THAT MEAN
SACHUNSA
MUST FIGHT
ALL OF
US TO BE
VICTORIOUS?!



NOT ME!
I'M WITH
SACHUNSA!



EVEN IF I MUST
BE EXILED FROM
SNAIL PROVINCE, I
WILL REMAIN LOYAL
TO HIM AND THE
COMMANDER!



IN THAT
CASE...



...IT WOULD APPEAR
THAT YOU TWO AND
SACHUNSA MUST
DEFEAT THE REST OF
US... WHICH IS
ROUGHLY ABOUT
4,001 THIEVES, IF MY
MATH IS CORRECT.

THEN...THAT
MEANS THAT
YOU ARE...

...AGAINST
SACHUNGA,
YES.

THE BELIEFS OF SNAIL
PROVINCE CANNOT BE
BROKEN TO SAVE ONE
OUTSIDER'S LIFE!

I SHOULD
HAVE WARNED
SACHUNGA...I
JUST DIDN'T
THINK IT
WOULD EVER
COME TO
THIS...

SO IT'S
COME TO
THIS...

DAMMIT!
THIS IS ALL
MY FAULT...

...FOR
SENDING
HIM AFTER
THE
DRAGON'S
HEART!

HOWEVER, I,
TOO, MUST
ABIDE BY
THE LAW.

EVEN IF IT
MEANS LIVING
THE REST OF
MY LIFE IN
REGRET...

BLADE OF HEAVEN





ALL OF YOU
ARE MINDLESS
PUPPETS!!



I THINK THAT "UPHOLDING
THE LAW" IS JUST A
CONVENIENT WAY TO HIDE
YOUR CONARDOICE! THE
UGLY TRUTH IS NONE OF
YOU HAVE THE STONES TO
FIGHT AGAINST THE ODDS
ALONGSIDE SACHUNGA!!



SHUT YOUR
FLAPPING
LIPS,
BUFFOON!!



HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN
WHY WE ARE LIVING ON
THIS FORGAKEN ISLAND,
OSTRACIZED FROM THE
ENTIRE WORLD?!

I DO NOT WISH TO WIELD
MY SWORD AGAINST
SACHUNGA! HOWEVER,
I CANNOT DOUGE THE
FIRE OF ORDER JUST
TO FAN THE FLAMES
OF FRIENDSHIP!!



WHAT GOOD
IS ORDER...
IF THE C-
COST...IS
OUR
SOULS...?



YOUR WORDS RING
TRUE. I, TOO,
BELIEVE THAT
HE WOULD. AND I
ALSO THINK THAT
SACHUNGA'S IN
THE RIGHT.



IF...IF THE
THIEF KING
WERE HERE,
HE WOULD
UNDERSTAND!

HOWEVER...



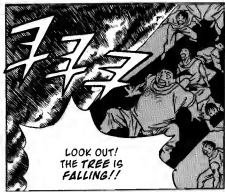
...THAT
CHANGES
NOTHING!



IF WE MAKE JUST
ONE EXCEPTION,
THEN SOON
WILL FOLLOW A
SECOND, AND
A THIRD, AND
ON AND ON...

OUR LAWS
WILL BECOME
MEANINGLESS,
AND OUR
CONVICTIONS
WILL BEGIN
TO ERODE!









HA! HIS GOOSE
IS COOKED NOW!
THE ENERGY
BLAST SHATTERED
THE TREE!!



SACHUNGA!!



DEATH
BEFALLS ALL
WHO INSULT
THE THIEF
KING!!



STAND
BACK!!



CURVE
ATTACK!!







I'M THE ONE
WHO SAVED THIS
TROUBLE SOME
FOOL'S LIFE IN
THE *BEGINNING*...
SO IT IS MY
RESPONSIBILITY
TO TAKE IT IN
THE *END*.



HA! IS THAT
WHAT THAT
GLAP WAS
ABOUT...?
SHOOT, I
DIDN'T KNOW
YOU CARED...



BUT EVEN
IF I AM A
LAWBREAKER,
I CAN'T
FIGHT YOU.



YOU GAVE
ME A NEW
LIFE...



SHUT UP
I SAID!!



STOP
IT!!



NO! DON'T
YOU SAY
THAT!



LET ME GO!
SACHUNSA
HASN'T DONE
ANYTHING
WRONG!!



JUST...
TAKE ME
INSTEAD...

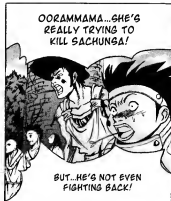


YOU HAVE A
CHANCE TO
LIVE! I FOUGHT
TO GIVE YOU
THAT CHANCE!
I HAVEN'T DONE
MUCH RIGHT IN
MY LIFE, BUT THIS
IS SOMETHING
I GOTTA GO!

BUT IF YOU'RE
WILLING TO
GIVE UP YOUR
LIFE THAT
EASILY, THEN
IT CHEAPENS
EVERYTHING
I'VE DONE...
EVERYTHING I'M
NOW DOING!!



WELL,
THAT WASN'T
SICKENING
AT ALL!!



OORAMAMA...SHE'S REALLY TRYING TO KILL SACHUNGA!

BUT...HE'S NOT EVEN FIGHTING BACK!



ON THE CONTRARY... SHE'S DOING THIS IN ORDER TO KILL SACHUNGA.



WHOSE HEART DO YOU THINK HURTS THE MOST RIGHT NOW?

LOOKS CAN BE DECEIVING...

THAT WOMAN RESCUED THAT BOY FROM THE BRINK OF DEATH. GAVE HIM A NAME...STAKED HER LIFE TO PROTECT HIM AND HAVE HIM ACCEPTED INTO SNAIL PROVINCE.



NO MY FRIENDS... THE HEART OF OORAMAMA AT THIS MOMENT IS FILLED WITH MORE ANGUISH AND PAIN THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE!



SHE KNOWS THAT SHE MUST PRESERVE THE LAW OF SNAIL PROVINCE...BUT SHE ALSO KNOWS THAT SHE WILL NEVER BREAK SACHUNGA'S WILL. SHE'S DOING THIS BECAUSE SHE'D RATHER MAKE HIM AN INVALID AND SPARE HIM HIS LIFE!



OORAMAMA'S SLINGS APPEAR MORE SERIOUS THAN THEY ACTUALLY ARE. SHE'S ACTUALLY AVOIDING ALL CRITICAL ATTACK POINTS!



I'M SORRY, SACHUNGA... BUT THIS IS THE ONLY WAY...



I-AM STARTIN' TA GET KOFF. THE IMPERBITION TH-THAT YOU'VE...G-GOOD WITH ME, B-BEER LADY...



I WON'T F-FIGHT YOU...KOFF. BUT I WON'T KOFF...G-GIVE UP, EITHER...





STOP
IT!!
YOU'RE
KILLING
HIM!!



YOU DON'T HAVE TO
FIGHT FOR ME! I-
I'M GOING TO DIE NO
MATTER WHAT YOU DO!

SO
PLEASE...
DON'T...



DON'T
GIVE UP,
SACHUNGA!!

HANG IN
THERE!!
WE BELIEVE
IN YOU!!



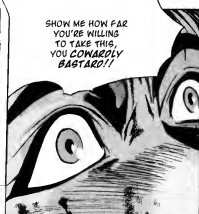
I...I C-
CAN'T...
GIVE...
UP...

HAVE YOU
LEARNED NOTHING
FROM ME?! WHAT
GOOD IS RISK IF
THE REWARD IS
DEATH?!

LISTEN TO
OORAMMAMA,
BOY...! ALTHOUGH
WE DON'T SHARE
THE SAME BLOOD,
WE'RE ALL BROTHERS
HERE! JUST LET
IT GO!



HOW IS BEING AS PUNCHING BAG
HELPING HER CAUSE OR YOURS?
YOU COWARD! IF YOU BELIEVE SO
STRONGLY, THEN PROVE IT! SHOW
ME HOW FAR YOU'RE WILLING TO GO!!





DAMN.
SHE'S
REALLY
LAYING ALL
THE CARDS
ON THE
TABLE.



MANY CONFLICTS
OCCURRED SINCE
THERE WAS NO
OTHER ABSOLUTE
RULE OTHER THAN
SERVING THE
THIEF KINS.

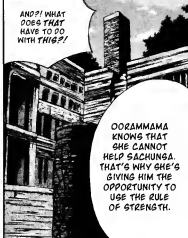
WHENEVER A
GRIEVOUS WOULD
BREAK OUT, WE
DIVIDED INTO
GROUPS OF THE
WEAK AND STRONG
THE STRONG HAD
TO HAVE STRENGTH
AND WERE ABLE
TO ENJOY THE
GREATEST
AUTHORITY--AND
THIS BECAME OUR
IRONCLAD RULE!



WHAT
DOES IT
MEAN...?



AS YOU ARE WELL
AWARE, SNAIL
PROVINCE WAS
FOUNDED BY QUITE
A "COLORFUL"
ASSORTMENT OF
CHARACTERS...



AND?! WHAT
DOES THAT
HAVE TO DO
WITH THIS?!

OORAMMAMA
KNOWS THAT
SHE CANNOT
HELP SACHUNGA.
THAT'S WHY SHE'S
GIVING HIM THE
OPPORTUNITY TO
USE THE RULE
OF STRENGTH.



IF HE IS ABLE TO
DEFEAT OORAMMAMA
AND OTHER HIGH
RANKING MEMBERS...
THEN HE WON'T HAVE
TO FIGHT THE REST!



BUT THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE!
OORAMMAMA HAS THE
BEST FIGHTING SKILLS
IN SNAIL PROVINCE!
HOW CAN SACHUNGA
POSSIBLY BEAT HER?!

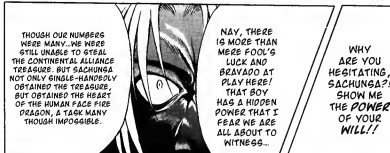
AND EVEN IF HE
DOES, HE STILL
HAS TO FACE
THE OTHER TOP
FIGHTERS?! HE'LL
BE MASSACRED!!



EITHER OF
YOU TWO
EVER FOUGHT
SACHUNGA?

WHAT?

WELL...
NO,
BUT...



THOUGH OUR NUMBERS
WERE MANY, WE WERE
STILL UNABLE TO STEAL
THE CONTINENTAL ALLIANCE
TREASURE. BUT SACHUNGA
NOT ONLY SINGLE-HANDEDLY
OBTAINED THE TREASURE,
BUT OBTAINED THE HEART
OF THE HUMAN FACE FIRE
DRAGON, A TASK MANY
THOUGH IMPOSSIBLE.

NAY, THERE
IS MORE THAN
MERE FOOL'S
LUCK AND
BRAVADO AT
PLAY HERE!
THAT BOY
HAS A HIDDEN
POWER THAT I
FEAR WE ARE
ALL ABOUT TO
WITNESS...

WHY
ARE YOU
HESITATING,
SACHUNGA?!
SHOW ME
THE POWER
OF YOUR
WILL!!



THEN...!

NO! THE
PALANQUIN!

LATER,
GATORS!!
YOU PLAY
NICE, NOW!

BLADE OF HEAVEN

FINE! YOU
WANT IT?/
YOU GOT
IT, LADY!!

EX
7





OORAMMAMA...?
ARE YOU
OKAY...?!

DID YOU HEAR
THAT HEAD BUTT?
IT SOUNDED
LIKE A BOULDER
CRACKING IN TWO!

SACHUNG...
THAT WAS A NICE
CRUEL, WOULDN'T
YOU SAY? A
WOMAN'S FACE
IS HER LIFE...

WOMAN?!
LET'S NOT
GET CARRIED
AWAY HERE...!



I MEAN,
JUST THE
OTHER MORNING
I SAW GHAVING
HER TOP LI...



EE, I-I MEAN
SASA! YOU WERE
GHAVING YOUR
VERY WOMANLY
GANG! HEH!



CRAP! MY
BARS ARE
STILL DINGING
FROM THAT
HEAD BUTT...!



GRZ...! IT
FEELS LIKE I'VE
BEEN HIT WITH
A SLAVE
HAMMER! HER
HEAD IS WAY
THICKER THAN
CHULOO'S!



WHAT
THE...?
CHULOO?

WHO'S
CHULOO?!



WHO'S
CHULOO?

CHUL...
OO?



YOU MEAN YOU
DON'T KNOW?!
BUT YOU'RE THE
ONE WHO SAID IT!





MAN...
THE LAST TIME
I SAW HER
THIS AGITATED, SHE
HAD JUST GOTTEN
HER BACK NAKED!



INCREDIBLE! THAT CHAIN
BLADE SHE'S GRIPPING
WOULD NORMALLY TAKE
AT LEAST TEN STEELS
MEN TO HOLD, BUT
SHE'S CARRYING IT AS
IF IT WERE NOTHING!

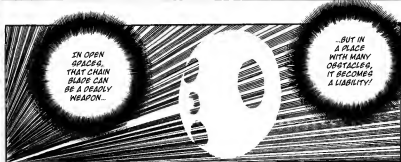
SACHUNGA,
BEHIND YOU!
RUN TOWARDS
THE FOREST!



THAT'S A BRILLIANT
IDEA! SO THERE'S
MORE TO THE
LIVING TREASURE
THAN A PRETTY
FACE AFTER ALL!



WHAT ARE YOU
TALKING ABOUT?!
IT'S HARD ENOUGH
AS IT IS TO DOGBE
HER IN A WIDE-
OPEN SPACE--BUT
YOU WANT HIM
TO GO INTO A
NARROW FOREST?!



IN OPEN
SPACES,
THAT CHAIN
BLADE CAN
BE A DEADLY
WEAPON...

--BUT IN
A PLACE
WITH MANY
OBSTACLES,
IT BECOMES
A LIABILITY!



HOWEVER...
THERE IS
SOMETHING
SHE FORGOT
TO FACTOR
IN...

...OORAMMAMA
IS NO ORDINARY
OPPONENT!

SACHUNGA! YOU
CAN'T HIDE IN THESE
TREES FOREVER! SO I
HAVE TO HACK EVERY
ONE OF THEM DOWN
TO FIND YOU, I WILL!





THE CHAIN
BLADE IS
EXTREMELY
HEAVY... BUT IN
THE HANDS OF
OORAMMAMA,
IT'S LIGHT AS
A FEATHER!



HOW MUCH LONGER
ARE YOU GOING TO
BE PLAYING KIBB
AWAY, HMM?!



CRAP, SHE'S
FAST!!



SHE'S REALLY
TRYING TO KILL
SACHUNGA!

NOW
SHE'S ONLY
ATTACKING
THE CRITICAL
POINTS!!



OORAMMAMA KNOWS
THAT SHE WILL NOT
BE ABLE TO DEFEAT
THE OTHER MARTINS
OF SNAG PROVINCE
WITH HALF-HEATED
ATTACKS FOREVER!

TRUE, SHE IS
ATTACKING HIM
WITH EVERYTHING
SHE HAS-- BUT HER
GOAL IS TO BUY
HIM TIME FROM
THE OTHERS!



PISS ON
THIS! YOU
WANT FULL
THROTTLES?!
THEN YOU
SOT IS
GIGER!!



WRECKLESS
FOOL..!



DAMN!
THE PLAN
BACKFIRED!
THE TREES
ARE MORE OF
A HINDRANCE
TO ME THAN
TO HER!

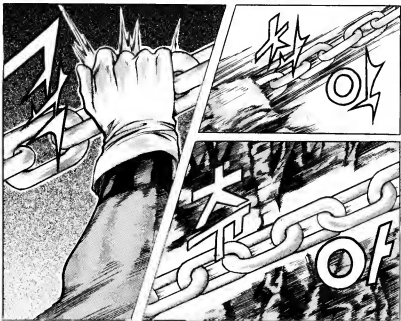
IF I CAN
JUST GET
INSIDE
THOSE
CHAINS...!!

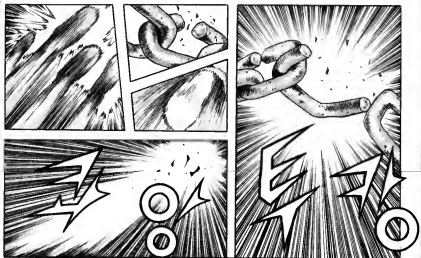


EVEN IF SHE
WANTED TO, IT'S
TOO LATE TO BACK
DOWN NOW! SHE HAS
TO CONTINUE TO PLAY
THIS HARD OUT UNTIL
THIS GAME'S OVER--
ONE WAY OR ANOTHER!













BOGS!!
ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?!



WELL...YOU
DID LOSE ON
PURPOSE...RIGHT?



OH MY WORD! TEE
HEE! HOW COULD
HE EVER HAVE
BEATEN YOU...!

SH
OK

YES,
BROTHER!
YOU ARE
RIGHT! HEE
HEE!



IF YOU'RE REALLY
SO WORRIED ABOUT
ME, THEN WHY ARE
YOU FIGHTING BACK
GICKERS?!



HIT THE
ROAD,
MORONGS!!



UNK...!

GOOD ONE, BOGS!
THAT BARELY
BEING ABLE TO
STAND THING
REALLY TELLS
THE PAIN!

YOU SHOULD BE
ON STAGE, IT'S
SUCH A GOOD
PERFORMANCE!



SHE DIDN'T
LOSE ON PURPOSE,
YOU CHATTERING
MONKEYS!



IT APPEARS
OORAMMAMA
WAS RIGHT
ALL ALONG!



SACHUNGA DOES
HAVE AMAZING INNATE
FIGHTING PROWESS!



H-HHE DOES...?
WHAT DOES
THAT MEAN...?



IN ORDER
TO DEFEAT
OORAMMAMA,
YOU MUST
FIRST GET
RID OF THE
CHAIN BLADE.



HOWEVER, EVEN IF YOU MANAGE TO DO THAT, YOU MUST THEN GO UP AGAINST OORAMMAMA AND HER IMMENSE STRENGTH! SACHUNGA KNEW THAT HE HAD NO CHANCE- SO HE WAITED UNTIL SHE WAS AIRBORNE TO STRIKE!



NO MATTER HOW STRONG SOMEONE IS, THEY CAN'T MAINTAIN THEIR STRENGTH IN MIDAIR. WHEN YOU'RE AIRBORNE, YOU CAN EASILY BE PUSHED OR PULLED!



BUT...HOW DID HE KNOW THAT OORAMMAMA WOULD ATTACK HIM FROM THE AIR?

NOT TO MENTION IF HE HAD MISCALCULATED EVEN A HAIR, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN HIT WITH THE BLADE!



IDIOT! THAT'S WHY YOU'RE YOU AND HE'S HIM!!



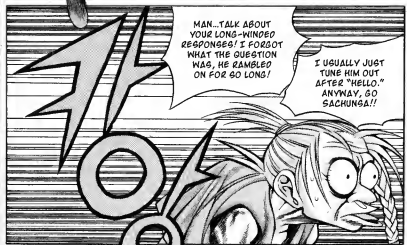
ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT KNOW MUCH OF SACHUNGA'S PAST...THERE IS ONE THING WE KNOW FOR SURE...



YOU DON'T LEARN ON- THE-FLY BATTLE ANALYSIS OF THAT CALIBER BY SIMPLY STUDYING THEORIES!

OH, NO... YOU CAN ONLY LEARN THAT FROM ACTUAL LIFE AND DEATH COMBAT!

SACH AND EVERY ONE OF SACHUNGA'S MOVEMENTS SERVES AS A WINDOW TO HIS PAST!

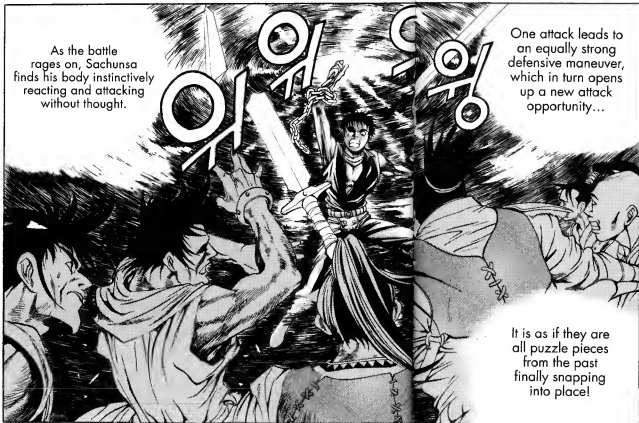


MAN...TALK ABOUT YOUR LONG-WINGED RESPONSES! I FORGOT WHAT THE QUESTION WAS, HE RAMBLED ON FOR SO LONG!

I USUALLY JUST TUNE HIM OUT AFTER "HELLO." ANYWAY, GO SACHUNGA!!







As the battle rages on, Sachunsa finds his body instinctively reacting and attacking without thought.

One attack leads to an equally strong defensive maneuver, which in turn opens up a new attack opportunity...

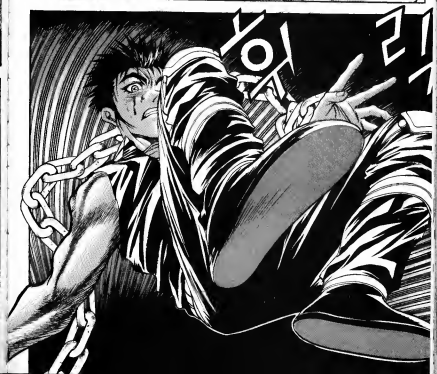
It is as if they are all puzzle pieces from the past finally snapping into place!

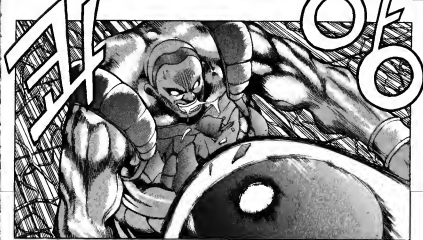
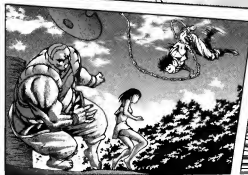


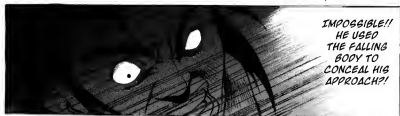
Every attack maneuver revealed a bit more of his past—as well as a glimpse of his future as the legendary hero Soma!



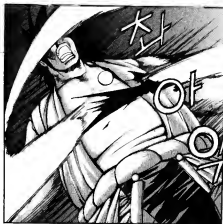
HOW DID HE--?!







IMPOSSIBLE!!
HE USED
THE FALLING
BODY TO
CONCEAL HIS
APPROACH?!





LOOKS LIKE
WE GOT A NEW
PLAYER ON
THE FIELD!



ACCK!!



NO...!!
HE'S BEEN
HIT!!



WHAT WAS THAT...?! FELT LIKE AN IRON ROD!!

NO WAY! A MERE WOODEN ARROW?!

SNAIL PROVINCE IS AN ISLAND INHABITED BY THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN BY THE WORLD...

IF YOU COME ONTO THIS ISLAND, NO ONE INQUIRES ABOUT YOUR PAST, NOR DO THEY INTERFERE IN YOUR BUSINESS.

HOWEVER... THERE ARE LAWS TO UPHOLD.

ONCE YOU DISOBEY THEM... THE YOU MUST SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES.

IT'S MASTER APPRENTICE!

IT'S HIM!

SO THAT TOOTHPICK CAME FROM YOU, EH? SO WHAT...? YOU REALLY THINK A BAG OF STICKS IS ENOUGH TO CHANGE MY MIND?

WELL, I'M JUST A QUAKIN' IN MY MOCCASING!



LOOK PAL... I
DON'T KNOW WHO
YOU ARE. NOR DO
I CARE. BUT I DO
KNOW YOU JUST
JUMPED TO THE
FRONT OF THE
ASS-KICK LINE!



SUCH DISRESPECT TO
THE MASTER! THAT
LITTLE SNAKE...!!



THE THIEF
KING IS LIKE
A GOD TO
US. HE IS
OUR REASON
TO LIVE.

HE GAVE
MEANING TO
THOSE WHOSE
LIVES WERE
MEANINGLESS.

OUR
ONLY
GOAL...

...IS TO ONE
DAY CHANGE
HOW THE WORLD
LOOKS UPON
US. TO ONE DAY
SHOW THEM
THAT WE ARE
NOT VILLAINS
ANYMORE!



YEEAAH... AND
THE BEST WAY
TO DO THAT IS TO KILL
INNOCENT WOMEN...?
YOU STARTIN' TO SEE
THE CRACKS IN THAT
LOGIC, CHIEF? LET ME
GAY THIS SO THE CHEAP
SEATS CAN HEAR...



YOU ARE
ALL FRIGGIN'
CRAZY!! YOU'VE
CREATED NOTHING
BUT A MINDLESS
CUL--NOTHING
MORE!!

YOU'RE
FOLLOWING
THE WILL OF
A SUPPOSED
"KING" THAT
YOU'VE NEVER
EVEN SEEN!!



IF THE THIEF KING
BELIEVES IN HIS
PRECIOUS LAW SO
MUCH, THEN LET'S SEE
HIM COME DOWN HERE
AND ENFORCE IT!!



SACHUNSA!!



THE FOOL'S
ACTUALLY
ATTACKING!



STAND
DOWN! HE'S
MINE.



SNAIL PROVINCE IS A
PLACE GOVERNED BY THE
RULE OF STRENGTH.



IF YOU GO WIGH,
I WILL LET YOU
MEET HIM.



HOWEVER,
IN ORDER TO
DO SO--YOU
MUST FIRST
AVOID MY
ARROWS!



OPEN YOUR EYES,
"MASTER" BY
RUNNING YOUR
BIG MOUTH,
YOU'VE GIVEN
ME THE TIME I
NEEDED TO CLOSE
THE DISTANCE
BETWEEN US!
THERE'S NO
WAY YOU'LL BE
ABLE TO TAKE
AN EFFECTIVE
SHOT!!



HE'S RIGHT!
SACHUNSA HAS
GAINED THE
UPPER HAND!



NOT
QUITE.

THE YOUNG
FOOL MASTER'S
SHOTS ARE ALWAYS
EFFECTIVE, NO
MATTER THE
DISTANCE!

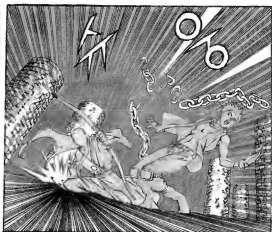
THE
REASON
BEING IS
BECAUSE...
HE'S THE
FASTEST
MAN IN THE
WORLD!!



HE IS THE FASTEST
WARRIOR I HAVE EVER SEEN...

WHICH IS WHY THEY
CALL HIM THE MAN
WITH EIGHT HANDS!!





THE IRON
CHAIN HAS BEEN
SHATTERED...!!

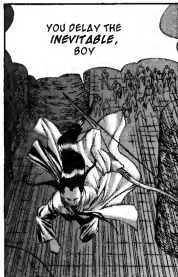
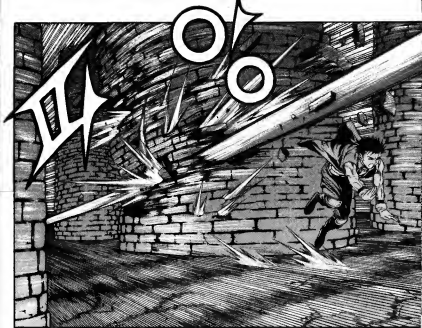
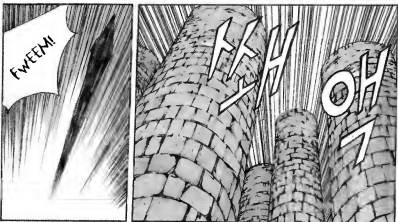


I DON'T HAVE
TIME TO WASTE
WITH YOU!

I JUST SEEK
AUDIENCE WITH
THE KING!!

SACHUNG'S
MAKING A
BREAK FOR
THE TEMPLE!

HE'S USING THE
STONE PILLARS
AS HIS SHIELD...!
WHAT A BRILLIANT
DEFENSIVE
MANEUVER!





EVEN MY
SKILLS PALE IN
COMPARISON
TO MASTER
APPRENTICE'S!



OH...! HE'S
ACTUALLY
FLYING!!



OUR
COMBATIVE
ATTACKS
CONSIST OF AN
ASSORTMENT OF
DIFFERENT SKILLS
WE'VE ACQUIRED
OVER THE YEARS...
BUT MASTER
APPRENTICE'S
SKILLS ARE THE
RESULT OF YEARS
OF DISCIPLINED,
TRADITIONAL
TRAINING!

AND AS THE
"WARRIOR OF
EIGHT HANDS"
IMPLIES--HE
LETS ALL HIS
ARROWS FLY
AT ONCE!

YOU WILL
LEARN
RESPECT,
BOY--EVEN
IF KILLS
YOU!!



BUT HOW DOES
OORAMAMA
KNOW SO MUCH
ABOUT MASTER
APPRENTICE'S
PAST?

THAT'S THE
WHOLE POINT
OF BEING HERE,
RIGHT? THAT
NO ONE KNOWS
EACH OTHER'S
HISTORY...



IDIOT! THE
MASTER
APPRENTICE
HAD TWO
DISCIPLES
BEFORE COMING
TO SNAIL
PROVINCE.
ONE WAS
OORAMAMA
AND THE
OTHER WA--

YOU'LL FIND THAT
FINISHING THAT
SENTENCE WILL
BE DETRIMENTAL
TO YOUR HEALTH,
OLD MAN!



TANI



YOU
CAN'T
ESCAPE
ME, BOY.



HUFF

HUFF

I'M NOT
RUNNING
BECAUSE
I'M AFRAID
OF YOU.
I'M TRYING
NOT TO
HURT YOU.



BUT IF
YOU REFUSE TO
BACK OFF--THEN
YOU LEAVE ME
NO CHOICE!!



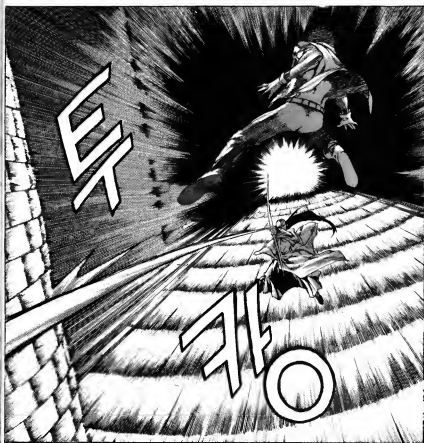
HMPH. YET
ANOTHER
RECKLESS
ATTACK.



HE'S
NUTS!! HE'S
ATTACKING
WITH HIS
BARE
HANDS!!



EVEN A
FLEA CAN BE
TENACIOUS.
MAKE IT A
THREAT IT
DOES NOT.





MY EYES...!!
I'M BLIND!!



LET'S SEE YOU
KNOCK THESE
APPLES OUTTA
THE AIR!!



BLADE OF HEAVEN



MASTER
APPRENTICE!!

SACHUNGA!!







HOWEVER...
WITHIN THESE
WALLS...AND OUR
HEARTS...HE
CONTINUES
TO LIVE ON...

THIS IS THE
HOLY PLACE
WHERE THE SPIRIT
OF THE THIEF KING--
AS WELL AS ALL
OTHER LEGENDARY
HEROES--ARE
PRESERVED!



WHEN THE MAJAH
REAPED CARNAGE UPON
THE WORLD, THESE FIVE
LEGENDARY HEROES
RISKE THEIR LIVES
TO PROTECT US ALL!



MAKUMRANG,
THE LONELY
SWORDSMAN!



CHULDO,
THE DIVINE
POWER!



FAT NINJA
OF THE DARK
COUNTRY!



AROOME
OF THE
HEAVENLY
REALM!



AND...LAST BUT
NOT LEAST...
THE MAN WHO
HEROICALLY
LOST HIS
LIFE IN THE
LAST GREAT
BATTLE...



...THE
GREATEST
WARRIOR THAT
EVER GRACED THE
EARTH WITH THE
IMPRINT OF HIS
FOOT...SOMA!

SOMA...

OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE
THIEF KING!

ALTHOUGH HE DIED
BEFORE I COULD
MEET HIM... HIS HEROIC
SPIRIT STILL LIVES ON
WITHIN OUR HEARTS.
WE WILL CONTINUE
HIS FIGHT AGAINST
THE MAJIN AND
SAVE THE HEAVEN
AND THE EARTH.
THEN THE WORLD
SHALL HEAR HIS
NAME ONCE MORE!

At this very moment,
Sachuno's ears were
filled only with the
sound of that strangely
familiar name...

He did not know why
his heart trembled so
within his breast!

HE IS THE
SOURCE OF
STRENGTH FOR
ALL MEMBERS
OF SNAIL
PROVINCE!



THE THIEF
KING IS OUR
LORD AND
SAVIOR!



I HEREBY
ACKNOWLEDGE THE
SUPERIORITY OF YOUR
COMBATIVE SKILLS BY
THE RULE OF STRENGTH!



WHY...
DO I SUDDENLY
FEEL SO
STRANGE...?

HOWEVER...



...WE WILL KILL
YOU IF YOU DARE
TO GLANDER THE
NAME OF THE THIEF
KING AGAIN!!



EKK!



WHERE IN
BLAZES IS
THIS CURSED
BIRLAND?!

HOW MUCH
LONGER DO WE
HAVE TO GO?!

WILL YOU STOP
COMPLAINING?!
I KNOW WHERE
I'M GOING!!

WE'VE BEEN SEARCHING
FOR SEVERAL MONTHS
NOW, BUT THERE'S STILL
NO SIGN OF IT...

HOW IS IT THAT I, AFTER
ALL MY VICTORIES IN
BATTLE, AM STUCK WITH
THIS MISSION TO FIND
THE PRINCESS...?!

HA! OF COURSE!
THERE'S NO WAY SHE
WOULD EXCLUDE THE GREAT
AND INVINCIBLE GENERAL
WINTER FROM BATTLE! IT
ALL MAKES GENSE NOW!!

RELAX, WILL YA?
THE QUEEN SAID
THAT WE'LL GET TO
FIGHT THE MAJEN-
- AFTER WE FIND
THE PRINCESS.

REALLY...?



WHAT
'AVE WE
'ERE?

MY...
CH-
CHIN...



EWN!
IT'S SOME
WRINKLY OLD
CODGER!!



ALL RIGHT, ALREADY!
ENOUGH DESCRIBING ME!
GEEZ! JUST KNOW THAT I
WON'T GO WITHOUT A--



THE ONE
WE'RE
LOOKING
FOR IS A
BIG 'AIRY
GUY WITH
LOTS O'
MUSCLES...



FIIIIIGHT...!!



I CAN'T WAIT TO GET MY
HANDS ON 'AT CRUMP! AN
ATTACK AGAINST OUR MEN
IS A FULL-OUT CHALLENGE
AGAINST OUR LEADER,
THE LEGENDARY SOMA!
HE'S AS GOOD AS DEAD!!

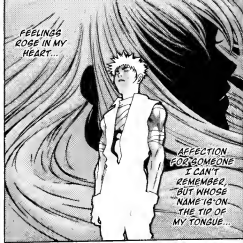
LOOKS LIKE TODAY'S
SEARCH WAS ANOTHER
BUST...! BOLLOCKS!
WILL WE EVER FIND
THIS GUY...?!

DID
HE SAY...
SOMA?!





IT'S WEIRD... BUT FROM THE MOMENT I STEPPED FOOT INTO THIS PLACE, I'VE FELT THE STRANGEST SENSE OF COMA VU...



FEELINGS ROSE IN MY HEART...

AFFECTION FOR SOMEONE I CAN'T REMEMBER, BUT WHOSE NAME IS ON THE TIP OF MY TONGUE...



A... ROOMS...



HUH?! WHAT DID I JUST SAY?!



ACK! WHAT'S WITH ME TODAY?! I'M FEELIN' ALL GOOSY INSIDE FOR NO APPARENT REASON!

I'M SAYING NAMES OF PEOPLE I'VE NEVER MET... I LIKE SOMEONE SWITCHED BRAINS ON ME OR SOMETHIN'!!



IT'S LIKE HAVING AN ITCH IN YOUR EAR THAT YOUR CAN'T SCRATCH! ONLY MY BRAIN IS ONE BIG RASHY, ITCHY THING!

MAYBE THAT OLD COOT'S GOT BUT DID SOMETHING TO MY MIND...! OOH! IF I EVER GET MY HANDS ON HIS PRUNY NECK...! BLAM! I JUST WANNA PUMMEL SOMETHING!



OOH! IF YOU GO CAN YOU TAKE ME WITH YOU?!

C-COMMANDER!!



YOU LOOSY BUZZARD! HOW COME WHENEVER I'M GETTING MY BUTT WHIPPED, YOU'RE CONVENIENTLY NOWHERE TO BE FOUND?!

GET UP! YOU GOTTA FLY ME OUTTA HERE OR ELSE I'LL BE STUCK GUARDING THIS MUSTY OLD TEMPLE UNTIL I'M NINETY!



I-I THINK YOU GOT THE WRONG IDEA... I-I WAS JUST GONNA GO OUT FOR A WALK... HEH HEH...!



NO MATTER...! I HAVE AN ESCAPE PLAN OF MY OWN...!!

YOU DO?!

OKAY, OKAY! I'LL TAKE YOU WITH ME! BUT WITH MY LUCK, YOUR ESCAPE WILL ALERT THEM TO MINE!

LISTEN. BETWEEN YOU AND ME... I'M TRYING TO SNEAK AWAY WITHOUT OORAMMA KNOWING...





SILLY-BILLY!
SHE ALREADY
KNOWS!

WHAT?!

SHE SAID
THESE ARE
THE CLOTHES
YOU HAD ON
WHEN SHE
FOUND YOU IN
THE AGWEJO
NEST.

A LITTLE
TOO
FLAGGY
FOR MY
TASTE,
BUT...



SHE
SENT
ME HERE
TO SAVE
THIS TO
YOU.



WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING
TO GO?

NOT
SURE...



BOSS LADY...
THANK YOU FOR
EVERYTHING...



BUT
I DO KNOW
MY FIRST STOP
IS TO TAKE
YOU HOME.

YOU
MEAN...?



THAT'S RIGHT!
WE'RE GOING TO
THE CONTINENTAL
ALLIANCE MILITARY..!



SACHUNGA... I-
I DON'T KNOW
WHAT TO SAY..!

SNUGLY WITH
THE MUGGY! S, AH,
JUST CAN'T BE
BURDENED WITH YOU
FOREVER, IS ALL!



TAKE CARE OF
YOURSELF,
SACHUNGA...



HE'S
GONE! HE'S--



WAIT...
ARE YOU
CRYING?

OORAMMAMA
HAS
FEELINGS!
I CAN'T
BELIEVE IT!
HEE HEE...



LOOK...
I KNOW YOUR
HEART MORE
THAN ANYONE
ELSE.

CONTRARY TO
YOUR RUGGED
EXTERIOR,
YOU'RE A FREE
SPIRIT WITHIN,
A WANDERER
BY HEART...



J--JUST
KIDDING!
I SAW N--
NOTHING!

AND THOUGH
YOU MAY NOT
ADMIT IT, HE
MEANT MORE
TO YOU THAN
JUST ANOTHER
LACKEY...



PERHAPS
BECAUSE HE
SO RESEMBLES
YOUR OLD
SWEETHEART
FROM LONG
AGO...?



SHUT UP, YOU
OLD FOOL! WHAT
KNOW YOU OF
THE CONTENTS
OF MY HEART?!



H-HEH...T'WAS MERELY A
JEST, MILADY...A CLUMSY
ATTEMPT TO LIFT THE FOG OF
SADNESS AROUND YOU...

SAY WHAT
SHE WILL, BUT
THIS "OLD
FOOL" JUST
TOUCHED A
NERVE, YEG
INDEEDY!



HMPH!
I'M JUST
WORRIED
ABOUT
SACHUNGA
BECAUSE HE'S
STILL SO...
IMMATURE



ALL YOU HAD
TO HAVE SAID
WAS DON'T GO--
AND HE WOULDN'T
HAVE. SO...WHY
DIDN'T YOU?



BECAUSE IT
WOULD BE
WRONG TO CAGE
A FREE SPIRIT
SUCH AS HIS.



FROM THE FIRST TIME I
LAID EYES ON HIM, I KNEW
THAT HE COULDN'T STAY IN
ONE PLACE FOR TOO LONG.

SACHUNGA IS A BIRD,
WHO NEEDS TO SOAR
THROUGH THE HEAVENS



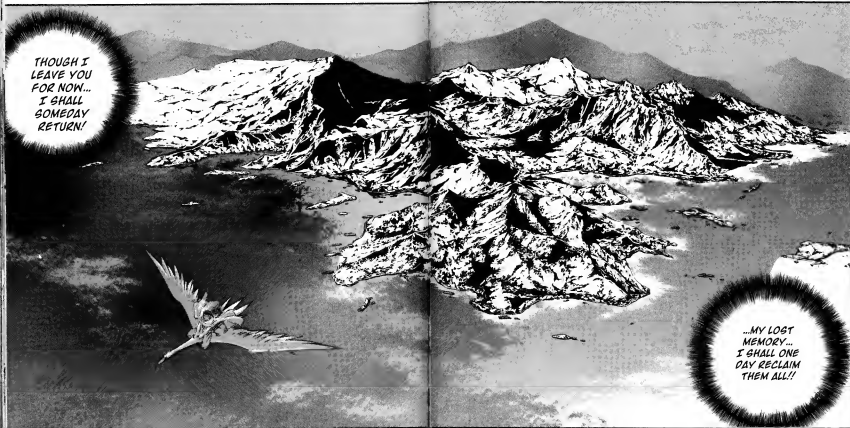
HERE I AM,
FINDING
MYSELF
LEAVING YET
ANOTHER
HOME...



FAREWELL,
MY FRIENDS...



OORAMMAMA,
NODOK, THE
TWIN BROTHERS...
AND...



THOUGH I
LEAVE YOU
FOR NOW...
I SHALL
SOMEDAY
RETURN!

...MY LOST
MEMORY...
I SHALL ONE
DAY RECLAIM
THEM ALL!!

HMM? WHO'S
THE FOOL?
THE POISONED
WORM ON THE
HOOK? DE
THE GREEDY
FISH 'AT
SHALLOWE IT?!

GRASS ME
YOUR FORTUNE
COOKER LIES!!
JUST YOU WAIT
TIL SOMA FINDS
OUT! HE'LL HANG
YOUR NECKS WHEN
HE DOES! WE'RE
BETTER BIDS!

PFPT! MORE LIES!
HEH...HOT HEAD
NEEDS SHOWER...
GOLDEN
SHOWER,
THAT IS...!

ZZIPI

OKAY...TELL
ME THAT
ISN'T WHAT I
THINK IT IS.

THIS IS WHAT IT'S COME TO!!
HEAVEN'S GREATEST DEFENDER,
THE WORLD'S GREATEST
GENSAL PEEES ON BY A
THIRD-RATE HENCHMAN!!

YOU WOULDN'T BE
GETTING A URINARY
TRACT SHAMPOO
IF YOU'D JUST
LISTENED TO ME
FOR ONCE!! I TOLD
YOU THAT WE HAD
STAY CLOSE TO
THOSE GUYS!!

BUT YOU'RE THE
ONE THAT HAD THE
BRIGHT IDEA THAT
ONCE WE FIND
SOMA, WE'D BE
ABLE TO FIND THE
PRINCESS, TOO...!!

OY...LOOKS
LIKE WE 'ON'T
HAVE TO KILL
THEM, BROTHER.
THEY'RE READY
TO KILL EACH
OTHER!! HA
HA HA!!

AND JUST SO
YOU KNOW,
NO ONE EVEN
COMES 'ROUND
THESE PARTS--SO
YOUR LITTLE
LOVERS GUARREL
WON'T BE 'EARD
BY A SOUL!

WHAT
THE--

--HELL?!

AGWEJO,
YOU IDIOT!!
WAKE UP!!

COMMANDER,
YOU ALL
RIGHT?!

I'M FINE...
BUT WHAT
ABOUT
AGWEJO..?

WHAT ABOUT HIM, THE
WORTHLESS BAG OF
FEATHERS? HE ATE NOT
EVEN TWO HOURS AGO,
BUT HE'S GROWING
AS IF HE HADN'T HAD
A MEAL IN DAYS!

SQUAWK...

GET
UP, YOU
STUPID
BIRD!!



HEY...KID!
YEAH, I'M
TALKIN'
TA YA, YA
PUNK! YOU
'AVE ME
AND MY
BROTHER
QUITE A
FRIGHT...



HOW DARE YOU INSULT
MEMBERS OF THE
WANDERING ARMY!
NOW YOU WILL SUFFER
A FATE WORSE THAN
A THOUSAND DE--



I'D SAY HE OWES US
AN APOLOGY, WOULDN'T
YOU BROTHER?!



C-CLOWNS?
CLOWNS?! WHY
YOU FILTHY
MONGREL!!



THOUGHT
HE'D
NEVER
SHUT UP...

HEY,
CHUCKLE--
YOU WANT
ME TO
APOLOGIZE
TO YOU,
TOO?



AND WHAT'S
WITH THIS
WANDERING
ARMY BUNK?
SOUNDS A MITE
"SNIGHY," IF
YOU FOLLOW
MY MEANING...

O-DON'T YOU
C-COME ANY
CLOSER! IF
COMMANDER
SOMA WERE
TO 'EAR ABOUT
THIS...TH-THEN
YOU-



THERE'S
THAT NAME
AGAIN...
SOMA!



SOMA...?
BUT...
ISN'T HE
DEAD...?



HA! SHOWS WHAT
YOU KNOW, YA
BIG BULY! THE
LEGENDARY
SOMA IS THE
COMMANDER OF
THE WANDERING
ARMY!!



CAN IT
BE...?! IS
THIS SOMA
PERSON...
ALIVE?!



I KNEW IT...!
JUST LOOK AT
'IM! THE MERE
MENTION OF
SOMA'S NAME
HAS 'IM PALE
AS A GHOST!

POOR LI'L
TWERP. I
ALMOST
FEEL SORRY
FOR HIM...



HEH...ON YOUR
KNEES, KNAVE! IF
YOUR GROVELING
HAS SINCERITY,
THEN PERHAPS I'LL
FORGIVE YOU!



IF I CAN
JUST SHOW THE
PEOPLE OF SNAIL
PROVINCE THAT
SOMA IS ALIVE,
THERE WOULD BE
NO NEED FOR ME
TO BE IN EXILE!

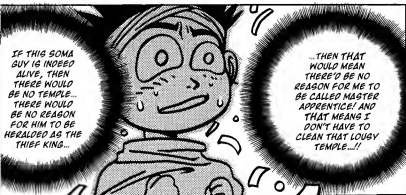


WHY IS HE LAUGHING?!
IS MY FLY OPEN?!
WHAT'S HE UP TO?!



YEAH...
THEN
I'LL BE
FREE AND
CLEAR!!

WHY IS
'FREE A
CHILL
GOING
DOWN MY
SPINE...?



IF THIS SOMA
GUY IS INDEED
ALIVE, THEN
THERE WOULD
BE NO TEMPLE...
THERE WOULD
BE NO REASON
FOR HIM TO BE
HERALDED AS THE
THIEF KING...

...THEN THAT
WOULD MEAN
THERE'D BE NO
REASON FOR ME TO
BE CALLED MASTER
APPRENTICE! AND
THAT MEANS I
DON'T HAVE TO
CLEAN THAT LOUSY
TEMPLE...!!



WH-WHY ARE
YOU LOOKIN' AT
ME LIKE 'AT...?



YOU
WANNA TELL
ME WHERE
SOMA IS?
OR SHALL
I BEAT IT
OUT OF YOUR
SLUGGISH
HIDE?!



BE CAREFUL, PERSON I'VE
NEVER MET BEFORE!



I DON'T
KNOW
WHO YOU
ARE

...BUT
PLEASE
HELP
US!!



SACHUNGA!
THERE'S SOMEONE
DOWN THERE!!

AND? WHAT DOES
THAT HAFFTA DO WITH
US? I'M ON A TIGHT
SCHEDULE, HERE!

BUT WE
CAN'T JUST
LEAVE
THEM...



GAWD! ALL
RIGHT, ALREADY!!





THERE!
THE DAY'S
OFFICIALLY
SAVED!
HAPPY?
GOOD!
LET'S GO!



YOU CALL
THIS A
RESCUE...?!



LET'S RIDE!
WE'RE GOING TO
FIND SOMA!!

HUH?
WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?



YOU BETTER LEAD
US THE RIGHT WAY
OR ELSE, CHUMPS!

WHERE ARE
WE GOING?
SACHUNGA?!



YAAH,
MULES!

PUMP THOSE
LEGS!

FASTER! PUT YER
BACKS INTO IT!



COMMANDER
SOMA!!
WE'RE IN BIG
TROUBLE!!



THERE'S THIS GUY OUTSIDE
WHO SAYS HE MUST MEET
YOU! HE'S CREATING
QUITE A RUCKUS. HE HAS
BOOMER AND GUS TRIGGERED
UP LIKE CATTLE. BUT HE
HAS SUCH GREAT SKILL
THAT NONE OF US ARE
ANY MATCH FOR HIM!



WEAK
FOOLS...

SUCH IS THE FOLLY
OF BEING A FAMOUS
SAVIOUR. EVERY ONE
WANTS TO BACK IN
YOUR RADIANCE.

SIGH. IT'S
SO HARD TO
FIND DECENT
HENCHMEN
THESE DAYS...
AND I WAS
JUST ABOUT
TO TAKE A
NAP, TOO...

THEY ALL HIGH
TO OVERTHROW
THE GREATEST
KNIGHTSMAN THAT
EVEYER LIVED...





WHAT THE---?!
WHAT WALKING
CORPSE JUST
BROKE DOWN
MY DOOR?!!



THAT
WOULD BE
ME. I'M YOUR
NUMBER ONE
FAN...SOMA.

BLADE OF HEAVEN





YOU ARE
SOMA,
RIGHT?



AND IF
I AM?

WHAT'S
IT TO
YOU?



YOU ASK THAT
KNOWING FULL
AND WELL THAT
I'M SOMA...WHICH
MEANS WHILE
STILL A FOOL, YOU
ARE ADMITTEDLY
A BRAVE ONE.

BOY, YOU'VE
JUST WALKED
INTO THE LION'S
DEN WITH A
STEAK AROUND
YOUR NECK.
TSK TSK TSK...
WHAT'S YOUR
NAME, FOOL?

MY NAME ISN'T
IMPORTANT. I JUST
NEED YOU TO COME
BACK WITH ME TO
SNAIL PROVINCE!



DID HE
GAY SNAIL
PROVINCE?!



THE FORGAKEN PLACE
WHERE THE MOST
WICKED AND VICIOUS
PEOPLE IN THE
WORLD RESIDE?!



HO HO! NICE
TRY, BOY!
I SEE WHAT
YOU'RE REALLY
AFTER!
YOU'RE A GUY
FOR SNAIL
PROVINCE!
THEY WANT MY
HANDSOME
ARMY'S BOOTY,
DON'T THEY?



DID YOU REALLY THINK SUCH
A PATHETIC PLOY WOULD
WORK AGAINST ME, THE
LEGENDARY SOMA?!



YEAH, YEAH. THAT
QUICK DOESN'T
SHAKE FOR ME.
CHIEF. YOUR NAME
DOESN'T "SHAKE"
PEAK IN MY HEART
LIKE IT DOES THE
OTHER JACKBOLES
YOU SURROUND
YOURSELF WITH.

UNLIKE THE
INHABITANTS
OF SNAIL
PROVINCE,
I, FOR ONE,
DON'T WORSHIP
THE GROUND
YOUR CRUITY
TOOTHIES
WALK ON.

WHAT?
DID YOU
SAY THEY
WORSHIP
ME...?



HO HO HO! THEN
IT'S YOUR MY
REPUTATION
REALLY IS ALL-
ENCOMPASSING!

I WOULDN'T
DO A HAPPY
DANCE JUST
YET, PAL.



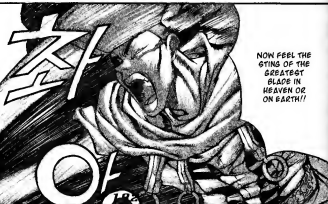
THE PEOPLE OF
SNAIL PROVINCE THINK
YOU'RE DEAD AND ARE
WORSHIPPING YOU AS
THE TRIFLE KING--BUT
STANDING HERE LOOKING
AT YOU NOW, IT SEEMS
MY SUSPICIONS WERE
RIGHT... LOSE WITH
A CAPITAL "L".



BECAUSE OF YOU, I HAVE TO
GUARD THE TEMPLE FOR THE REST OF
MY LIFE... SO I NEED TO DEAR YOU TO
SNAIL PROVINCE TO NOT ONLY SHOW THEM
THAT YOU'RE NOT DEAD--BUT TO CONFIRM
THAT THE SWORD THAT YOU HAVE ISN'T
SOME SPECIAL "HEAVENLY" BLADE!



AS ENTICING AS
IT GOINGS TO BE
WORSHIPPED AS
A GOD--I WILL
NEVER ABIDE
THE WISHES OF
GUCH A BRAZEN
BRAGGART!!



NOW FEEL THE
STING OF THE
GREATEST
BLADE IN
HEAVEN OR
ON EARTH!!



NOW YOU'RE SPEAKING
MY LANGUAGE! WHY FLAP
YOUR GUMS WHEN YOU CAN
KICK SOME BUTT!!



UH, I THINK
I'LL BE GOING,
NOW...



SACHUNGA!!
STOP THIS
INSTANT!!



YOU
MIGHTN'T
FIGHT
SOMA!!

MOTHER...

NO, SACHUNSA!



WAS SHE RIDING
AN OSTRICH?!



STOP HER! STOP HIM!
PROTECT THE BOSS!
DO SOMETHING,
DAMMIT!!



THE LADY'S OFF-
LIMITS, CREEPS!!



HOW DARE YOU
MANHANDLE MY
SUBORDINATES....!!



I TOLD YOU TO WAIT
OUTSIDE! YOU COULD
HAVE GOTTEN A REALLY
SNARLY BOO-BOO!



BUT...
SOMA SAVED THE
HEAVENS AND
THE EARTH!



IF HE TRULY
IS ALIVE, THEN
THERE IS
HOPE TO SAVE
THE WORLD
AFTER ALL!



NOT THE "I WANT
TO HAVE SOMA'S
BABY" SPEECH
AGAIN...! YEEESH...!

WHAT A
TOUCHING, BUT
GAD SENTIMENT
FROM SUCH
A BEAUTIFUL
WOMAN...



AND WITHOUT
EVEN LOOKING, I
FIND YET ANOTHER
GRATEFUL SOUL THAT
WORSHIPS ME!



FEAR NOT,
DEAR GIRL...
I AM NOT
DEAD--
NOR WILL I
EVER DIE.

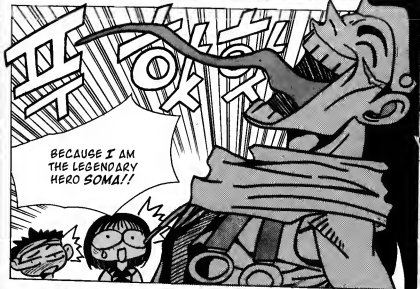


THIS IS THE
PART WHERE
YOU ASK
ME WHY...!

WHAT...?



WHY, YOU
ASK? WELL,
THE REASON
IS SIMPLE...



BECAUSE I AM
THE LEGENDARY
HERO SOMA!!



SO...
YOU ARE
SOMA...?



GASP! I SEE YOU
RECOGNIZED ME
AT ONCE...!! HOW
COULD EYES GO
DEEP ALSO BE SO
INSIGHTFUL...!!

B-BUT...YOU
JUST SAID IT
WITH YOUR
OWN MOUTH--



AND WHAT, PRAY TELL,
IS THE NAME OF THIS
YOUNG FAWN WHO WAS
ABLE TO RECOGNIZE
A HERO AT FIRST
GLANCE? HMM?

...THE COMMANDER
OF THE CONTINENTAL
ALLIANCE MILITARY...
AND SAJA KHAN'S
ONLY DAUGHTER--

SURE, I TRY TO
HIDE MY IDENTITY,
BUT ALAS, MY
CHISELED FEATURES
AND REGAL AIR
MAKE IT A DEAD
GIVEAWAY! A
POX UPON THESE
DAMNED HANDSOME
GENES!

M-MB?
WELL, I
AM...



O-DID SHE SAY...
COMMANDER
OF THE C-
CONTINENTAL
ALLIANCE
MILITARY?!



COMMANDER S-
SOMA! THE RANGOM
WE CAN GET FOR
THIS GIRL COULD
BE IN THE MILLIO-



UMPH!

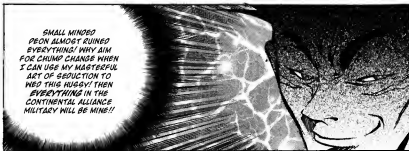


BUT G-GIRL!
IF YOU TAKE
THAT GIRL
HOSTAGE, WE
COULD ASK
CONTINENTAL THE
ALLIANCE MILITARY
FOR TONS
OF MONEY...!



HA HA! LISTEN
NOT TO MY
OBLIVIOUS
ASSOCIATES!
THEY MERELY
JEET FOR YOUR
AMUSEMENT!

HA!
HA!



SMALL MINDS
DON'T ALMOST RUINED
EVERYTHING! WHY AM
FOR CHUMP CHANGE WHEN
I CAN USE MY MASTERFUL
ART OF SEDUCTION TO
WED THIS HUSSY! THEN
EVERYTHING IN THE
CONTINENTAL ALLIANCE
MILITARY WILL BE MINE!!



YES,
OUR MEETING IS
INDEED A FATEFUL
ONE. THE WILL
OF THE GODS,
IT MUST BE. NOW
WHY DON'T WE GO
OUTSIDE AND HAVE
OURSELVES A NICE
CUP OF TEA...

WHAT...?
OH...I, S,
ER...

T-TEA
WOULD BE
NICE I
S-SURE...





OF COURSE IT WOULD! IN FACT, I WOULD INDEED! THAT YOU JOIN ME! SURE, I'M BUSY AROUND THE CLOCK RAISING THE WORLD FROM THE MAJAH. BUT FOR YOU, I CAN TAKE A LITTLE BREAKY-MAKEY..

DARLING, I DON'T THINK I DON'T SEE THE PASSION IN YOUR EYES...

UM, I DON'T MEAN TO INTERRUPT THE LITTLE ROMANTIC INTERLUDE, BUT WE'RE KIDS IN THE MIDDLE OF MORTAL COMBAT, HERE?



NOW SO I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION, YOU FOVVISK LITTLE DANDY!



SACHUNGA!



COMMANDER SOMA!



WHAT, YOU BOOGY BOY A PROBLEM WITH THAT?



WHAT...? YOU'RE STILL HERE?

TELL YA WHAT, KID...I'M IN SUCH A GOOD MOOD, I'LL LET YOU WALK OUTTA HERE WITH ALL YOUR LIMBS ATTACHED. NOW SCRAM!



DUDE... THAT SNAPPING SOUND YOU HEAR? THAT'S YOU BREAKING MY LAST NERVE.



ANY OF YOU OTHER BASTARDS FEEL A NOTION TO BARK, THEN STEP UP TO HAVE YOUR SNOUT SMACKED!



STAND BACK, MEN...

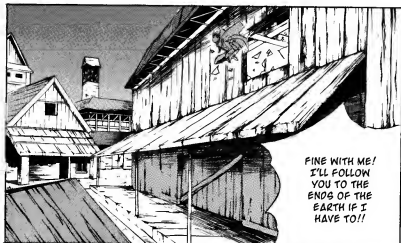
THIS LITTLE PUNK IS ALL MINE!



WHEN YOU'RE STARING UP AT ME WITH YOUR DYING BREATH, YOU'LL REGRET THE MOMENT YOU DARED LAY A HAND UPON MY SACRILEGIOUS FLAG!!



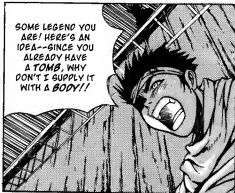
OW!! THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I TOLD YOUR MOM LAST NIGHT!



FINE WITH ME! I'LL FOLLOW YOU TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH IF I HAVE TO!!



HEY!! NO INVOKING OF MOTHERS!! SHE IS A SAINTLY WOMAN!!

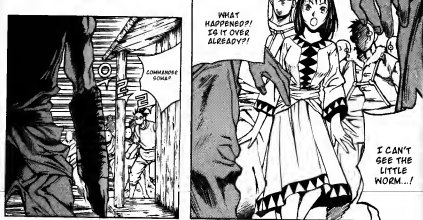


SOME LEGEND YOU ARE! HERE'S AN IDEA--SINCE YOU ALREADY HAVE A TOMB, WHY DON'T I SUPPLY IT WITH A BODY!!



TIME TO GET SOME ELBOW ROOM!





THERE IS NO ONE
ON THE FACE OF
THIS EARTH WHO
CAN ESCAPE MY
BLADE OF HEAVEN!!
BECAUSE I AM THE
MIGHTY SOMA!!



PEPE! YOU
CALL THAT FLY
SHAT A DEATH
BLOW... I'VE
ENDURED
HARDER
NIPPLE
THWISTERS.

THE ONLY THING THAT
COUNTS IS WHO IS
LEFT STANDING!!



WHAT YOU
"ARE" IS
A MIGHTY
DOUCHE
BAG.



HO HO...!
I SEE YOU
SURVIVED
MY DEATH
BLOW! YOU
CERTAINLY
ARE A LUCKY
LITTLE PUP!

ARROGANT WHELP! IN A REAL
FIGHT, THE ONLY THING THAT
MATTERS IS THE OUTCOME!
THE MEANS OR THE METHOD
ISN'T IMPORTANT!!



HA! WHAT SAY YOU NOW,
BOY?! YOU CAN'T FIGHT ME
WITH A SPLIT SWORD!



GLOAT ALL YOU LIKE--
BUT WITHOUT THE BLADE,
YOU'D BE NOTHING!



SHUT YOUR
MOUTH! I
DON'T NEED
THE BLADE...



...TO DEFEAT
A LOWLY DOG
LIKE YOU!! I
AM POWERFUL
WITHOUT IT!!

HOLD IT!
STOP RIGHT
THERE!





NOW I
KNOW YOU
AREN'T
SOMA!



I'M NOT? WHA HA HA! WHAT
NONSENSE IS THIS?! THE
POOR GIRL'S DELUSIONAL!

I'M AFRAID YOUR
DESPERATE ATTEMPT AT
SAVING THIS BOY'S LIFE
WON'T WORK, MILADY!



YOU'RE JUST TRYING
TO STIR UP A CLOUD OF
CONFUSION SO HE CAN
ESCAPE! I SEE RIGHT
THROUGH YOUR CHEAP
PARLOR TRICKS!

ON THE CONTRARY, SIR.
YOUR MARTIAL ARTS MAY
BE OF A HIGH CALIBER--
BUT THERE IS NO WAY THAT
YOU ARE THE REAL SOMA!



UM...YEAH.
WHATEVER.
I KNOW
WHO I AM,
AND THAT'S
ALL THAT
MATTERS.

BUT LET'S NOT
FIGHT, 'KAY? WE
HAVE SO MUCH
IN COMMON THAN
TO QUARREL OVER
MINOR THINGS...
AND BY THE BY,
YOU MAY CALL
ME "MONEY" OR
"POOKEY BEAR"
IF YOU WISH...



SOMA IS A
MAN OF NOBLE
CHARACTER
WHO
SACRIFICED
HIMSELF TO
SAVE THE
HEAVENS AND
THE EARTH!
IF YOU TRULY
WERE SOMA...

...YOU WOULD NOT
HAVE FORMED THE
WANDERING ARMY
TO PLUNDER AND
PILLAGE THE WEAK.
YOU WOULD HAVE
NEVER RESORTED TO
TERRORIZING
PEOPLE!



WH-WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING? I
DON'T DO
THAT OUT OF
"GREED"!!



I'M JUST MERELY
MAKING THE NECESSARY
PREPARATIONS TO GO TO
WAR AGAINST THE MAJEH!



SAVE YOUR EXCUSES!
NO MATTER WHAT
THE REASON WAS,
PLUNDERING AND
PILLAGING MAKES YOU
NO DIFFERENT FROM
THE VICIOUS MAJEH!

THOSE PEOPLE I SUPPOSEDLY
"TERRORIZED" ARE NOTHING
BUT SELF-CENTERED PEASANTS
THAT COULD CARE LESS IF
THE MAJEH SPILLS BLOOD--
AS LONG AS IT'S NOT THEIR
OWN! SO I HAD NO CHOICE!



BUT THAT'S NOT THE
MOST DAMNING EVIDENCE.
IF YOU TRULY WERE
SOMA, YOU WOULDN'T
HAVE RESORTED TO
DECEPTION TO WIN A
SHAMEFUL VICTORY!

WHAT...?
SH-SHAMEFUL
VICTORY...?!



HEH...JUDGING BY
HOW RED YOUR
FACE IS, I'D SAY
SHE HIT A VEIN
OF TRUTH, EH,
POKER? CAREFUL
YOU DON'T POP A
VESSEL, NOW!



BLADE OF HEAVEN





FINE! IT'S TRUE THAT YOU'VE DEFEATED ME--BUT I WON'T TOLERATE YOU SPEAKING OF SOMA IN SUCH AN INSULTING MANNER!

WHAT...?

WHAT THE HELL DOES HE...?

IT'S TRUE--I AM NOT SOMA!

MY REAL NAME IS MANGJONG. I'VE ALWAYS BEEN ENVOY OF SOMA'S REPUTATION. SO MUCH SO, THAT I PRETENDED TO BE HIM!

WHAT IS HE SAYING?!



I KNOW! THE BUMS TO THE HEAD HAVE SCRAMBLED HIS MIND!! HE'S FORGOTTEN WHO HE REALLY IS !!

IS IT TRUE?
IS HE MERELY
A FAKE?!



SO...IF
WHAT
YOU'RE
TELLING ME
IS TRUE...

...THEN WHERE'S
THE REAL SOMA,
BUH?! FIRST
YOU ARE SOMA,
AND NOW YOU'RE
NOT--MAKE UP
YOUR MIND, DAMN
YOUR MASCARA-
LACED EYES!

WHAT DO YOU WANT, A
WRITTEN CONFESSION?!
IT'S JUST LIKE I SAID!
I'M NOT SOMA!
YOU DEFEATED ME,
ORDINARY "NOT SOMA"
MANGJONG! SOMA IS
A LEGENDARY HERO
WHOSE PARTS I AM NOT
WORTHY TO SMELL!!

YOU LYING PIECE OF CRAP!!
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TRYING
TO DO!! YOU'RE HUMILIATED AT
BEING DEFEATED BY ME. SO
YOU'RE JUST PRETENDING
YOU'RE NOT SOMA! YOU
THINK I DON'T KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE TRYING TO PULL?!

COMMANDER SOMA!



WHAT'S HE DOING WITH
OUR COMMANDER...!!

YOU'RE
STARING
LIKE YOU
WANT TO DO
SOMETHING!
THEN WHAT.
ARE YOU
WAITING
FOR?!



C'MON, YOU
DIAPER STAINS!
COME EAT
SOME SHOE
LEATHER LIKE
YOUR MASTER!

LOOK--HE
DOESN'T EVEN
HAVE A SWORD!!



WE CAN TAKE HIM!
LET'S SHOW HIM
THE MIGHT OF THE
WANDERING ARMY!!

EVERYONE--
STOP!!



YOU DELUDED FOOLS!
THERE'S NO NEED FOR
YOU TO RISK YOUR
LIVES FOR MINE! I
HAVE BEEN DECEIVING
YOU ALL THIS TIME!

I AM NOT
SOMA! I
SWEAR
IT! I'M
NOT EVEN
WORTHY
TO GAY HIS
GLORIOUS
NAME!

B-BUT...
COMMANDER
SOMA...

STOP CALLING ME THAT!!

MY NAME IS
MANGJONG--
NOT SOMA!!

SO PLEASE...
JUST LEAVE ME BE!

I SAID
GET AWAY
FROM ME!!

COMMANDER...!

COMMANDER
SOMA!

I'M A
COWARD...
NOTHING
MORE.

HOWEVER...THERE IS
ONE THING I CAN TELL
YOU WHICH IS TRUE...

PRIP!

I DO YEARN
TO FIGHT
AGAINST THE
MAJEH!

I MAY NEVER
BE COMPARED
TO SOMA...BUT
I STILL WANT
TO BE A HERO
LIKE HIM.

UM, RAISE YOUR
HAND IF YOU KNOW
WHAT'S GOING ON?
'CUZ IF YOU DO,
COULD YOU PLEASE
EXPLAIN IT TO ME?

HE'S
TELLING THE
TRUTH.

HE IS
NOT
SOMA.

ON TOP
OF THAT,
THE BLADE
IS A PART
OF HIM.

IF YOU
LOOK AT
THE PAST
RECORD
OF SOMA,
HE ALWAYS
FOUGHT
AGAINST THE
MAJEH BY
HIMSELF. HE
NEVER FORMED
AN ARMY OF
FOLLOWERS.

HE COULD
NEVER
IMAGINE
BEING
SEPARATED
FROM IT.



PLUS, A SWORD OF THAT CALIBER WOULD NEVER GHATTER SO EASILY.



AND LASTLY...THE MOST DAMNING EVIDENCE OF ALL...



...THE GREATEST HERO TO EVER LIVE WOULD NEVER LOOK THAT STUPID!



IT DOESN'T MATTER IF HE'S SOMA OR NOT!



I WILL NOT LEAVE THE WANDERING ARMY!

I LOST MY ENTIRE FAMILY TO THE MAJEH! FIGHTING TO SAVE THEM THAT FATEFUL DAY GAVE ME THIS SCAR!

AFTER THEY WERE MURDERED, I LIVED A NOMADIC EXISTENCE, DREAMING OF THE DAY MY THIRST FOR REVENGE WOULD BE QUENCHED. IF I HAD NOT MET THIS MAN, I WOULD HAVE FALLEN INTO DESPAIR AND GIVEN UP ON EVERYTHING!



A USELESS OLD FOOL I MAY BE...BUT I WILL STAY BY YOUR SIDE!



TRUE, I FEEL BETRAYED...BUT I STILL BELIEVE IN YOU!



OH...YOU... GUYS...!



THAT'S RIGHT! WE MAY NOT BE BLOOD-RELATED, BUT WE'RE BROTHERS THE SAME!

THE COMMANDER IS OUR ETERNAL LEADER!

WHEN MEN FORGE A CONNECTION WITH ONE ANOTHER, NOTHING CAN BREAK THOSE BONDS!



I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...



CONGRATULATIONS! YOU HAVE GREAT FRIENDS!



NOW YOU CAN BECOME A TRUE LEADER!

C-COMMANDER...!



WHILE YOUR ACTIONS WERE DECEITFUL, YOUR STEADFAST RESOLVE IN FIGHTING AGAINST THE MAJEH IS TRULY COMMENDABLE!

HEH...! YOU'RE REALLY THINKING SO...?

EVEN IF SOMA HIMSELF WERE STANDING BEFORE YOU NOW, HE WOULD NOT CONDEMN YOU FOR USING HIS NAME!



NOT ONLY THAT... BUT I BELIEVE IN YOU, TOO!

THE GLINT IN YOUR EYES WHEN YOU WERE GOING ABOUT FIGHTING THE MAJAH REMINDED ME OF MY FATHER. HE, TOO, HAD THE SAME BURNING DESIRE TO FIGHT AGAINST THE MAJAH.



SHE'S SPEAKING OF SAJA KHAN!



TELL ME WHAT--IF YOU HIGH TO REALLY TURN OVER A NEW LEAF, THEN WHY NOT JOIN FORCES WITH THE CONTINGENTAL ALLIANCE MILITARY. THEN WE CAN DEFEAT THE MAJAH TOGETHER!



THOSE...WORDS... COMMANDER...DOES THAT MEAN THAT YOU ARE...GULP... PROPOSING TO ME...?



SPEAKING OF--LET'S GO, GIRLY! WE'VE WASTED ENOUGH TIME HERE! LET'S GET YOU BACK HOME!

TH-THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER ASK! GIMME OUTTA HERE!!

COMMANDER...! WAIT! MY HEART NEEDS AN ANSWER...!!



I HOPE TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE YOU ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE SOMEDAY! BYE!

COMMANDER!



YOU HEARD HER, BOYS! STARTING THIS SECOND, WE'RE COMING OUT FROM THE DARKNESS AND STEPPING INTO THE LIGHT! OH HAPPY DAY!

COMMANDER!

YES GIR!

Tears of Inspiration



THERE YOU WORMS ARE!!



HOW DID YOU GET HERE...?!



WE'RE ASKING THE QUESTIONS, SONNY! NOW TAKE US TO SOMA!!

I'M
SORRY, MY
FRIENDS...
BUT SOMA
IS DEAD.
HOWEVER...

I AM THE
LIVING
EMBODIMENT
OF HIS HEROIC
SPIRIT!

I AM
SOMA-
PART
TWO!!

BUT YOU CAN CALL
ME "SAOOMA"!

OOH COMMANDER...!
YOO HOO! ALTHOUGH
WE ONLY HAD
A BRIEF TIME
TOGETHER, I
ASSURE YOU
I WILL BE A
BETTER MAN
WHEN NEXT
WE MEET!

SOMA!!

A GIANT
PIGION...



WHAT...?



IT'S
SOMA!
WE'VE
FINALLY
FOUND
HIM!



WHERE?
WHERE?! DAMN
MY WRINKLED
EYES...!

THERE...!
OVER
THERE!



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "SOMA"?
THAT GUY IS JUST A THIEF
FROM SNAIL PROVINCE! YOU
TWO MUST'VE BEEN INTO
SOME REALLY GOOD AIS...!

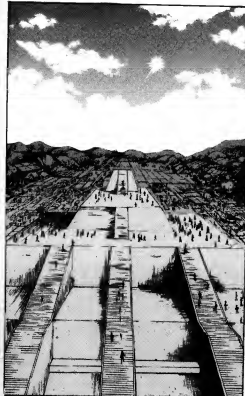
TEE
HEE



I KNOW WHAT I
SAW! I'M SURE
IT WAS HIM!



HE'S
CUT HIS
HAIR... BUT IT
WAS SOMA,
NO DOUBT
ABOUT IT!



THAT
MUST BE THE
LEGENDARY
BLADE!



THAT
QUEST
THING?
FISH SURE
DOESN'T LOOK
"LEGENDARY"
TO ME...



SIGH...
CAN YOU
BE ANY
DENSER?



SURE, IT MAY LOOK LIKE
ANY NORMAL BLADE--BUT
EVEN SAJA KHAN HIMSELF
COULDN'T PULL IT OUT!

MAYBE IF THE MIGHTY
CHULDO WERE TO TRY... OR
BETTER STILL, THE HERO
SOMA... BUT OTHER
THAN THEM, IF SAJA
KHAN COULDN'T DO IT,
THEN NO ONE CAN!



WELL, I
GUESS
WE'LL JUST
HAVE TO
WAIT AND
SEE.

EVEN IF
THE VICTOR
DEFEATS ALL HIS
OPPONENTS IN
THIS TOURNAMENT,
HE MUST STILL
PULL OUT THE
BLADE IN ORDER
TO EARN THE TITLE
OF THE GREATEST
HERO IN HEAVEN
AND ON EARTH!

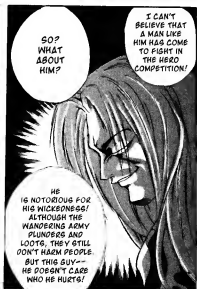
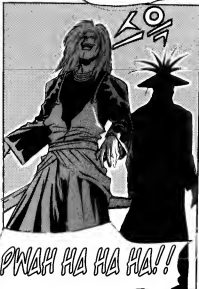


WELL, ALL
I KNOW IS,
WHOEVER DOES
IT, HE'S THE
LUCKIEST MAN
ALIVE! IF YOU
RECEIVE THE
TITLE OF THE
GREATEST
WARRIOR...

...THEN YOU CAN
RISE TO THE
HIGHEST LEVELS
OF RANK WITHIN IN
THE CONTINENTAL
ALLIANCE MILITARY.
THAT MAN WILL ENJOY
IMMENSE WEALTH
AND GLORY...

BLADE OF HEAVEN







SAVED BY
THE BELL,
EH HARRY?
CONSIDER
YOURSELF
LUCKY.

HEH
HEH...

UNTIL THEN, YOU BETTER TAKE
CARE OF THOSE FINE IRON ARMS
OF YOURS... BECAUSE I PLAN ON
HANGING THEM ON MY TROPHY
WALL NEXT TO THE BLADE!



HOWEVER, THE NEXT TIME
WE MEET, YOU BETTER
WATCH OUT FOR YOUR NECK.
BECAUSE LUCK, MUCH LIKE
YOUR NEXT BREATH, ISN'T
ALWAYS GUARANTEED!



HURRY UP AND
COME OUT! THE
FOOD IS GOING
TO GET COLD!!

I'VE COOKED
UP A NEW DISH
JUST FOR YOU!



ATTENTION!
THE LONG-
AWAITED
HERO
COMPETITION
HAS BEGUN!

동 동 동

YEEAAH!!

THE
OPPORTUNITY
TO PULL
THE SWORD
FROM THE
STONE WILL
BE GIVEN TO
THE LAST MAN
STANDING—
SO GOOD LUCK
TO YOU ALL!

ALL RIGHT!!

I'M...
I'M SORRY, KAY
BUT I REALLY
DON'T WANT TO
EAT RIGHT NOW...

WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT?
CAN'T YOU
SMELL IT?

IT TASTES SO
GOOD, YOU WOULDN'T
EVEN NOTICE IF THE
PERSON BESIDE YOU
FELL OVER DEAD!!

I'M...ALL RIGHT...
I JUST...WANT TO
REST...PLEASE...
KOFF...JUST LEAVE
ME ALONE...KOFF...!

REALLY
SMOOTH, KAY.
WITH GOOD THINGS
TALK LIKE
THAT, IT'S NO
WONDER SHE
HASN'T OPENED
UP TO YOU YET!

GET
LOST,
RAT!

WHAT THE...? SHE
DIDN'T EVEN EAT THE
FOOD I MADE FOR
HER YESTERDAY!

GEEZ!
YOU'RE
BURNING UP
WITH FEVER!

WHAT DID I TELL
YOU?! I TOLD
YOU NOT TO SIT
IN FRONT OF THE
BLADE EVERY
FRICKIN' NIGHT!

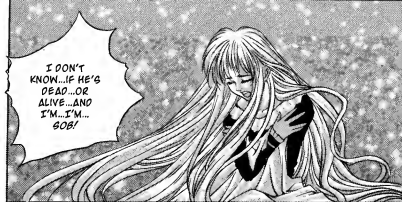
GET YOUR
HANDS OFF ME!

HUH!

CHULDO...FAT
NINJA...DONG
DONG...I'VE LOST ALL
OF THEM!! AND IT'S
BECAUSE OF YOU
THAT I CAN'T GEE
SOMA ANYMORE!!

SO DON'T YOU
PUT YOUR FILTHY
HANDS ON MY
BODY! I DON'T
WANT TO EAT THE
DISGUSTING FOOD
YOU'VE MADE,
OR SEE YOUR
DISGUSTING FACE!!

PRINCESS...
I...



I DON'T
KNOW...IF HE'S
DEAD...OR
ALIVE...AND
I'M...I'M...
SOB!



OOOH! HOW I HATE YOU!!



F-FINE! I'M A SELF-
CENTERED PIG, AND I ONLY
THINK ABOUT MYSELF!!

IT'S FINE IF
YOU HATE AND
DESPISE ME!!



BUT YOU STARVING
YOURSELF WON'T
BRING HIM BACK!!

WHAT IF HE IS ALIVE?!
YOU WANT HIM TO
FIND YOU DEAD FROM
STARVATION?! IF NOT,
THEN YOU'D BETTER
START EATING!!



PRINCESS...IF HE
DOES RETURN,
AND I FEEL
THE SAME AS
I DO AT THIS
MOMENT...THEN I
CAN'T PROMISE
YOU I WON'T
TRY TO KILL
HIM AGAIN. BUT
ALL THE MORE
REASON FOR YOU
TO BUILD YOUR
STRENGTH FOR
THAT MOMENT!

BECAUSE
I FEAR
THE ONLY
PERSON
THAT CAN
STOP ME
FROM
KILLING
HIM...IS
YOU!!



BUT UNTIL
THAT MOMENT
COMES...I
WON'T BOTHER
YOU ANYMORE.

I FIGURE
YOU'LL HAVE
PLENTY OF
REASONS
TO HATE
ME LATER.



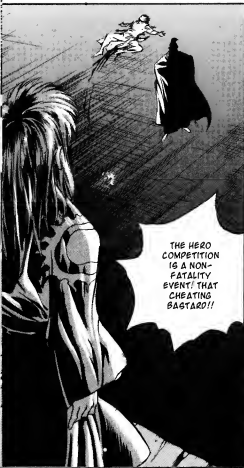


BLADE OF HEAVEN





LOOK! HE
KILLED
HIM!!



THE HERO
COMPETITION
IS A NON-
FATALITY
EVENT! THAT
CHEATING
BASTARD!!



BUT... YOU HAD
HIM BEAT! WHY
DID YOU HAVE
TO KILL HIM?!



OH, GOD NOO!
SOMEBODY PLEASE
SAVE THEM SOON!
- PUNCHES -



IN TRUE
COMBAT,
THERE IS
NO HOLDING
BACK! NO
PULLING OF
PUNCHES!

ONLY THROUGH
TRUE LIFE
AND DEATH
COMBAT CAN
WE DETERMINE
WHO IS THE
STRONGEST!



IS THIS NOT A
COMPETITION FOR
THE ULTIMATE PRIZE?
THEN IT WOULD BE
A DISSERVICE TO
THE BLADE IF THE
STAKES WEREN'T
LIFE OR DEATH!

ISN'T
THAT
RIGHT,
HAIRY?

E1



HMPH.
'FRADY-CAT.



DO YOU SEE? THIS IS
HOW YOU SMOKE OUT THE
COWARDS! ONLY THE VICTOR
CAN LAUGH WHILE THE LOSER
WILL ALWAYS BE SPEECHLESS!!



THAT'S IT...!
I'M GONNA
CRACK HIS
CROWN!



HE IS
RIGHT.



THE HERO
COMPETITION EXISTS
TO FIND ONLY THE
GREATEST WARRIORS.



EVEN IF THE OPPONENT IS
MERCILESS, IF YOU CANNOT OVERCOME
THAT, YOU DO NOT DESERVE TO
STAND AMONG THE STRONG.

THERE IS ONLY
ONE RULE IN
THE HERO
COMPETITION--
IF ANY METHOD
AND TACTIC
YOU EMPLOY IS
ACCEPTABLE, AS
LONG AS IT IS
ONE-ON-ONE, THE
HONOR SYSTEM
IS ENFORCEABLE...
BUT NOT
ENFORCED.



IN MAJEH WE FACE
A MERCILESS Foe
THAT KILLS WITHOUT
PAUSE. SO THE WARRIOR
THAT FACES HIM MUST
BE AS EQUALLY COLD
AND CALCULATING.



BUT...THAT
GUY IS--

I SHALL
HEAR NO
MORE
OF IT!



IF HIS ACTIONS
DISTURBS YOU
SO, THEN ENTER
THE FRAY AND
DEFEAT HIM IN THE
COMPETITION!

BUT...I
DIDN'T...



I TOOK THE LIBERTY
OF SUBMITTING
YOUR NAME BEFORE
THE COMPETITION
STARTED.

M-MY LORD...!



THANK YOU! NOW
I WILL GO SHOW
THAT BASTARD
HIS SPLEEN...!



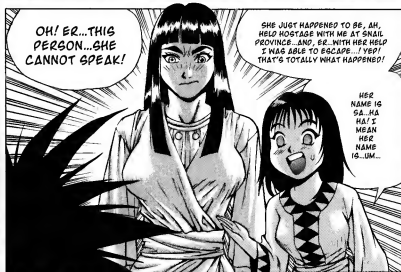
LOOK! THE
COMMANDER
HAS RETURNED!



SHE'S BEEN
DELIVERED
FROM THE
VILLAINS
OF SNAIL
PROVINCE!

COMMANDER?!

PRaise
THE
GOODS!





RIGHT! SHE
MAY LOOK
WEAK AND
FRAIL, BUT...

WEAK?

FRAIL!



ON THE
CONTRARY...
SHE'S
BEAUTIFUL...



SHE HAS
EVERYTHING
I'VE IN A
WOMAN!

FIRM BODY!
STURDY
SHOULDERS!

UM,
SEN?



I'M RELIEVED
TO SEE YOU'VE
RETURNED SAFELY,
COMMANDER.



DADDY!



YES, YOUR
MAJESTY. YOUR
COMMANDER HAS
RETURNED SAFELY.



WELCOME
BACK, MY
DAUGHTER!



DADDY!

THOUGH IT SEEMS
A BIT SINCE I
LAST SAW YOU,
IT APPEARS YOUR
AFFECTIONATE
WAYS ARE VERY
MUCH INTACT!



ENOUGH,
ENOUGH!
YOUR
GUEST
WILL
MAKE
FUN OF
YOU...!



HUH?



MY BEAUTIFUL DAUGHTER...
WHAT MAN WILL MARRY
YOU IF YOU BEHAVE IN
SUCH A MANNER?!



PLEASE
TAKE OUR
HONORED
GUEST
TO HER
QUARTERS!

SIGH...



BLADE OF HEAVEN





YES... THERE
ARE SO MANY
PEOPLE HERE
FOR THE HERO
COMPETITION
THAT THIS IS
THE ONLY ROOM
AVAILABLE!

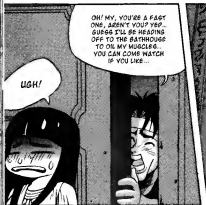


YOU'LL HAVE
TO SHARE A
ROOM... BUT
I THINK
YOU'LL BE
COMFORTABLE
ENOUGH...



HUH?
WHERE DID
SHE GO?

DID SHE
GO IN
ALREADY?



UGH!

OH! MY, YOU'RE A FAST
ONE, AREN'T YOU? YES...
SURE! IT'S BE HEADING
OFF TO THE BATHHOUSE...
YOU CAN COME WATCH
IF YOU LIKE...

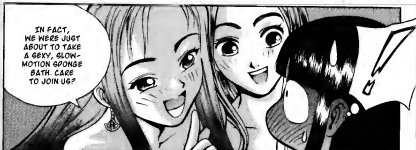


SAY! AREN'T
YOU THE FEMALE
WARRIOR WHO
CAME BACK
WITH THE
COMMANDER?



WE'RE THE
ATTENDANTS
OF THE
COMMANDER!

SINCE YOU SAVED
THE COMMANDER'S
LIFE, WE ARE AT
YOUR COMMAND!
WE'LL DO ANYTHING
YOU TELL US...



IN FACT,
WE WERE JUST
ABOUT TO TAKE
A SEXY, SLOW-
MOTION SPONGE
BATH... CARE
TO JOIN US?



YES, YOU MUST
ALLOW US TO
BATHE YOU!
TAKE OFF YOUR
CLOTHES!

DON'T BE SHY,
NOW... WE'RE
ALL WOMEN
HERE, AFTER
ALL! IT
NOT LIKE
YOU HAVE
SOMETHING
WE DON'T...

EEEP!



I CAN'T
BELIEVE I'M
RUNNING
AWAY...

HEEP!

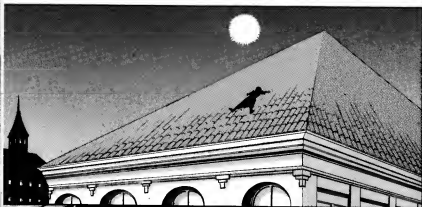
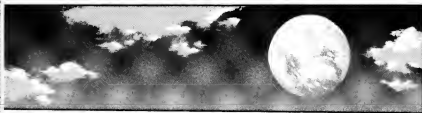
HEEP!

THU!



I GUESS I'LL
JUST HAVE TO
SLEEP UP HERE
TONIGHT...

...FROM
NUMBER
TWELVE
ON MY
HOT CHICK
FANTASY
LIST!



WHAT'S
THE
MATTER?

ARE YOU MAD
BECAUSE
I DRESSED
YOU UP LIKE
A GIRL AND
SAID YOU
WERE MUTE?



LOOK, I'M SORRY!
BUT I HAD NO CHOICE!
CHARYUKSAN WOULD'VE
RECOGNIZED YOU!



IF PEOPLE KNEW
WHO YOU WERE,
IT WOULD BE
SCANDALOUS!



WHILE WE KNOW THE
PEOPLE OF SNAIL
PROVINCE ARE GOOD, NO
ONE ELSE HERE DOES.



MAYBE ONE DAY,
WHEN THE TRUTH
ABOUT THEM IS
REVEALED...

NEVER MIND
THAT. TELL
ME--IS SOMA
REALLY THAT
GREAT?

WHAT?



IS SOMA THAT
GREAT OF A
FIGHTER?!



WELL,
I'VE NEVER
ACTUALLY
SEEN HIM...

...BUT I HEAR
HE HAS WINGS
ON HIS BACK,
ALLOWING HIM TO
FLY AT WILL...AND
THAT HE'S BIG...

...AND CAN
LEAP OVER
MOUNTAINS...

REALLY? BOY, THAT IS
AWESOME...



WHAT'S SO FUNNY?!
OKEY, ASIDE FROM
ME STANDING HERE
IN A DRESS...WHAT
ELSE IS FUNNY?!

EVERYWHERE I
GO, EVERYONE
IS ALWAYS
TALKING ABOUT
SOMA THIS
AND SOMA
THAT...!

FROM MY
FRIENDS IN
SNAIL PROVINCE
TO THOSE
WANDERING
ARMY CLOWNS.
I JUST WANT TO
KNOW WHAT ALL
THIS RUCKUS
IS ABOUT!

I KNOW, RIGHT? TOO
BAD NONE OF IT'S
TRUE. THEY'RE ALL
JUST TALL TALES THAT
JUST SEEM TO GET
TALLER WITH EVERY
TELLING. HOWEVER,
THE IMPORTANT
THING IS THAT HE'S
RESPECTED ENOUGH
TO HAVE PEOPLE LOOK
UP TO HIM THAT WAY.

IT'S NOT JUST
THAT HE'S A GOOD
FIGHTER... BUT HE
RISKED HIS OWN
LIFE FOR JUSTICE
AND STOOD UP FOR
THOSE WEAKER
THAN HIM! HE
HAD A TRULY
HEROIC SPIRIT!

HEROIC
SPIRIT...

HMPH! STILL
SOUNDS LIKE
HOGWASH
TO ME!

THOUGH I
WOULD LOVE TO
GO HEAD-TO-
HEAD WITH THE
GUY JUST ONCE...

CHARYUKSAN
IS NOT
AN EASY
OPPONENT.

HEH HEH. I DON'T
CARE WHO IT IS!
HIS NECK WILL
INTIMATELY KNOW
THE EDGE OF MY
SWORD JUST LIKE
ALL THE OTHERS!

IN ANY CASE,
BE CAREFUL! IF
YOU MAKE EVEN
ONE MISTAKE,
ALL OF OUR
PLANS COULD
FALL APART!

THE POISON
ON MY SWORD
WILL BE SO
STRONG, THE
SLIGHTEST
NICK WILL STOP
HIS HEART!

RELAX. I HAVE
IT UNDER
CONTROL!

FROM ALL MY YEARS OF HANDS-ON, I'VE LEARNED THAT STRENGTH, POWER AND MONEY ARE WHAT MATTERS...

I CARE NOT ABOUT THE MAJESH, OR THE HUMAN WORLD--AS LONG AS THE CONTINENTAL ALLIANCE MILITARY FALLS UNDER MY CONTROL!

HMM...THESE GUYS DEFINITELY AREN'T UP TO ANY GOOD AT THIS HOUR...

HOWEVER... IF ANYONE IS AFTER MY SHARE...

THE ONLY THING THE MAJESH WANTS IS THE DEATH OF SAJA KHAN AND ALL WHO FOLLOW HIM.

YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU WISH WITH THE REST OF HIS EMPIRE'S CARCASS.

AND HOW SAY YOU, MY SILENT FRIEND? HOW WILL YOU ANSWER MY QUERY?

BLADE...?

I CAN'T SEE THE OTHER TWO GUYS FROM HERE...

BLADE.

Apples

THE BLADE IS NEEDED... TO KILL EVERYONE.



I BETTER GET OUTTA
HERE BEFORE IT
STARTS GETTING
NOISY!

WHEN...!

WHO IS MISS
WARRIOR?
AND WHY ARE
YOU DRESSED
LIKE THIS?

YOUR BODY
REEKS OF
DEATH...AND
IT'S NOT A
WEAK SMELL,
OH NO! IT IS A
MOST FIERCE
STENCH...

YOU OLD PERV! YOU
BEEN SNIFFING
MY UNDERWEAR,
HAVEN'T YOU?!

IT'S NOT SO BAD, REALLY.
THOUGH THE PANTYHOSE
IS A LITTLE SHU--HEY!!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING
HERE, OLD MAN?

HEE HEE!
OH, YOU CAN
ALWAYS FIND
ME IN PLACES
WHERE DEATH
IS IN THE AIR...

DEATH...?

SOON, THERE WILL
BE BLOODSHED
HERE...PEOPLE WILL
KILL...WHILE OTHERS
WILL BE KILLED...

MY NOSE HAS
NEVER BEEN WRONG...
SNIFF...SNIFF...

I GUESS YOU'RE TALKING
ABOUT THE HERO
COMPETITION...! LOOK,
YOU BETTER GET OUTTA
HERE BEFORE YOU GET
HURT, OLD MAN.

I DON'T HAVE TIME
TO PLAY WITH YOU!

OH MY!

ON THE
CONTRARY...
IT IS YOU
WHO IS IN
DANGER,
BOYO.

HE
DISAPPEARED...
AGAIN! WHAT
IS WITH THAT
GUY?! I JUST
CAN'T FIGURE
HIM OUT...

YOO HOO!
GUESS WHO!

HA HA HA! BOY! YOU REALLY
HAD ME WORRIED, THERE! I
ORGANIZED A FUTURE WIFE
"GEEK AND FOND" TASK
FORCE AND EVERYTHING!

I CAME
UP HERE
BECAUSE I
HEARD PEOPLE
SPEAKING...ARE
YOU THE
ONLY ONE
UP HERE...?

WHAT'S
THIS...?

YOUR BREAST...IS IN
THE MIDDLE NOW!!



8-BUT...
HOW CAN
THIS BE...?!



HOW CAN YOU
ONLY HAVE ONE
BREAST, WHEN
SABUKE TODAY
IS DISTINCTLY
SOMEBODY
SUCKING MY
FACE BETWEEN
TWO...?!

MAYBE IF I
CAN JUST GET
RID OF HIM, MY
SECRET WILL
STILL BE SAFE!



PERHAPS
IT'S A FAKE
BREAST?!



OOH...! I GET
IT NOW!!

Y-YOU
DO...?

BECAUSE YOUR
BREASTS ARE SO
SMALL, YOU JUST
WANTED TO "BEEF
THEM UP," IF YOU
CAN PARDON THE
PUN...! YEP...THE
COMMANDER USED TO
DO THE SAME THING...

BUT I'M NOT A SHALLOW MAN,
AND HECK... YOU KNOW WHAT THEY
SAY...AN EVEN BATTLEFIELD CAN
BE AS FUN AS A MOUNTAINOUS
ONE...HEH HEH! AND TO THINK I
ALMOST THOUGHT THAT YOU WERE
A SPY FROM SMALL PROVINCES
DRESSED UP AS A WOMAN!



WHY, THAT WOULD
MAKE ME THE BIGGEST
IDIOT ON THE PLANET.
WOULDN'T IT?! HOW
GILLY OF ME!

BA-
THUMP!

BA-
THUMP!

BA-
THUMP!

BLADE OF HEAVEN





I'M READY FOR THAT
"LESSON IN MANNERS"
YOU PROMISED!

SWINE!

I'M NOT AFRAID
OF YOU! YOU HAVE
NO HONOR! YOU'RE
JUST A GREEDY
MONGREL LOOKING
FOR A SCRAP OF
NOTORIETY!

WOW,
THIS
MATCH
COULD GO
EITHER
WAY!



CHARYUKSAN IS THE
BEST WARRIOR IN THE
CONTINENTAL ALLIANCE
MILITARY--BUT
DEMON IS UNDOUBTLY
THE DEADLIEST Foe
HE'S EVER FACED!

WITH ONLY A
FEW WARRIORS
LEFT, IT SEEMS
THE END IS NEAR!



PERHAPS
ONE OF
THESE TWO
WILL BE
THE FINAL
VICTOR!



NO WAY! I THINK IT'S
WAY TOO EARLY TO
DETERMINE THE WINNER!

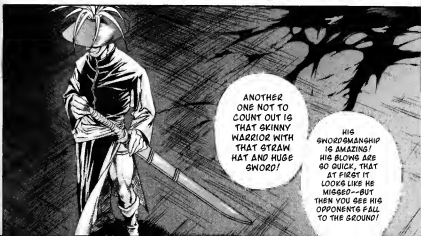


JUST LOOK AT THAT HAIRY GUY,
BROTHER WOOO CRYING! HE'S
NOT WELL-KNOWN, BUT HE CURE
IS AN AMAZING FIGHTER!



RUMOR HAS
IT THAT
HE MAY
EVEN BE
STRONGER
THAN SAJA
KHAN!

AND DON'T
FORGET HE
TOOK DOWN
ALL OF HIS
ADVERSARIES
WITH JUST
HIS FISTS,
TOO...!



ANOTHER
ONE NOT TO
COUNT OUT IS
THAT SKINNY
WARRIOR WITH
THAT STRAW
HAT AND HUGE
SWORD!

HIS
SWORDSMANSHIP
IS AMAZING!
HIS BLOWS ARE
SO QUICK, THAT
AT FIRST IT
LOOKS LIKE HE
MISSED--BUT
THEN YOU SEE HIS
OPPONENTS FALL
TO THE GROUND!

YOU'RE
ALL
WRONG!

YOU'RE LEAVING OUT
ONE IMPORTANT
PERSON!

WHO
ARE...?

YOU DON'T NEED TO
KNOW WHO I AM...BUT
HOW ABOUT ME MAKE A
BET TO SPICE THINGS
UP A BIT, HMM?

A BET...?

MY MONEY'S
ON THAT
WOMAN OVER
THERE!

I TELLING
YOU, YOU
CAN'T COME
UP HERE!

I KNOW
THAT YOU'RE A
FRIEND OF THE
COMMANDER'S,
BUT NO ONE BUT
THE COMMANDER
AND SAJA KHAN
ARE ALLOWED
UP HERE!

ESPECIALLY NOT
DOG-FACES
LIKE YOU!

OOH! STUPID
LITTLE TOY
SOLDIER!

WHAT? YOU
MEAN THAT
UGLY BROAD?!

SHE'S JUST A
WOMAN! NO
WAY CAN SHE
DEFEAT ALL
THE OTHERS!!

ON TOP OF THAT,
SHE DIDN'T EVEN
REGISTER FOR
THE COMPETITION!
YOU MUST BE
DRUNK, OLD MAN!

REALLY...? WELL, THAT'S
STRANGE...BECAUSE
AS I UNDERSTAND IT,
ANYONE IS WELCOME
TO ENTER THE
COMPETITION AS LONG
AS THEY FIGHT UNTIL
THE FINAL WINNER
IS SELECTED...

SEM...THAT'S
TRUE...BUT ONCE
EVEN THE BEST
OF WARRIORS
EXPERIENCE THE
FIERCENESS
OF THE
COMPETITION...

...THEY
WIND UP
QUITTING!
SO HOW
CAN THAT
GIRL--

BUT ABOUT
THAT BET?
WHO'S IN
TO TAKE
A DRUNK
OLD FOOL'S
MONEY?

DAMMIT...!

I CAN'T EVEN WARN
THEM BECAUSE I'M
SUPPOSED TO BE MUTE...!

HEY! WHO
JUST KICKED
THAT ROCK?!

I NEED
TO TELL
THEM THAT
THERE'S
A PLOT
UNDERWAY...
BUT THERE'S
NO WAY
FOR ME TO
GET CLOSE
ENOUGH TO
DO IT...!!

WELL, WE'LL JUST HAVE
TO WAIT AND SEE, WON'T
WE? SOON, SHE'LL
ENTER THE FRAY...

DON'T GET ME
WRONG...I DON'T
LIKE CHARYUKSAN...
BUT I CAN'T LET
HIM FIGHT A NOBLE
BATTLE ONLY TO
LOSE HIS LIFE TO
A DIRTY TRICK
LIKE A POISON-
LACED SWORD...

TSK, TSK...JUST LOOK AT YOU. YOU'RE SO TIRED, YOU CAN BARELY HOLD UP THOSE WEAPONS! YOU'RE FINISHED...SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL GIVE UP!



I'LL SHOW YOU WHO'S TIRED!!



HE'S WOUND THE CORD AROUND THE DEMON'S SWORD!



YEAH! I KNEW CHAR YUKKAN COULD DO IT!



ONCE CHAR YUKKAN'S CORD WINDS ONTO SOMETHING, IT NEVER COMES LOOSE!!

IT'S CHAR YUKKAN'S SPECIAL TECHNIQUE OF CONTINUOUS ATTACKS!



YOU GULLIBLE FOOL! YOU FELL RIGHT INTO MY TRAP!



WHERE IS THAT KID? HE'D BETTER HURRY IF HE'S GONNA SAVE THE DAY...



AS EXPECTABLE AS ALWAYS, I'VE STUDIED ALL OF YOUR MOVES!





YOU DARE INTERFERE,
WENCH?! YOU MUST
LONG FOR DEATH!
IF SO, THEN LET ME
OBLIGE YOU!!



TEE
HEE!
THERE
HE IS!!





WHAT
THE...?
HOW...?



HUH? SHE'S
A MAN?



MISS
WARRIOR...?



SACHUNGA!



YOU BASTARD!! HOW
DARE YOU ATTACK A
WOMAN'S BREASTS!!
AND ON TOP OF THAT,
YOU MAKE FUN OF
THEIR SIZE?! SURE,
YOU CAN IRON A SHIRT
ON HER CHEST--BUT
TO CALL HER A MAN?!
UNFORGIVABLE!!

AN INSULT
DIRECTED TO MISS
WARRIOR IS AN
INSULT AGAINST
ME, A LOVER OF
FLAT--CHAGED
WOMEN!!

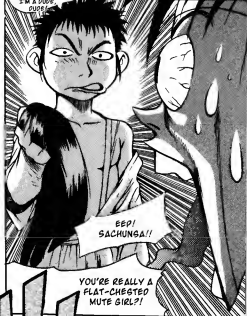


SIGH...
STEP ASIDE,
MORON.

AN
FURTHERMORE,
I--



FUTURE
WIFE...?
DID YOU
JUST
SPEAK...?



EEP!
SACHUNGA!!

YOU'RE REALLY A
FLAT-CHESTED
MUTE GIRL?!



TAKE A COLD
SHOWER,
ROMEO!!



I WAS
WONDERING
WHO WOULD
HAVE THE
GALL TO
INTERFERE
WITH MY
ATTACK...

IT'S MY FIRST
TIME GOING
TO IN PERSON,
BUT I'D
HEARD MUCH
ABOUT YOUR
PEOPLE, THE
MONKIES
OF SHAL
PROVINCE...
SACHUNSA!!

THAT GUY IS
THE NOTORIOUS
SACHUNSA!!

WHAT ARE THE
VILLAINS OF
SHAL PROVINCE
DOING HERE?!

WHEN I WAS LOOKING
FOR YOU, I COULDN'T
FIND YOU ANYWHERE... BUT
HERE YOU ARE, IN FRONT
OF ME... AND IN THE FORM
OF MY IDEAL WOMAN, NO
LESS... OH IRONY, YOU ARE
A MOST CRUEL MISTRESS...



SACHUNSA!! HOW
DARE YOU TOY
WITH A MAN'S
BEEC--EK,
AFFECTIONS!!



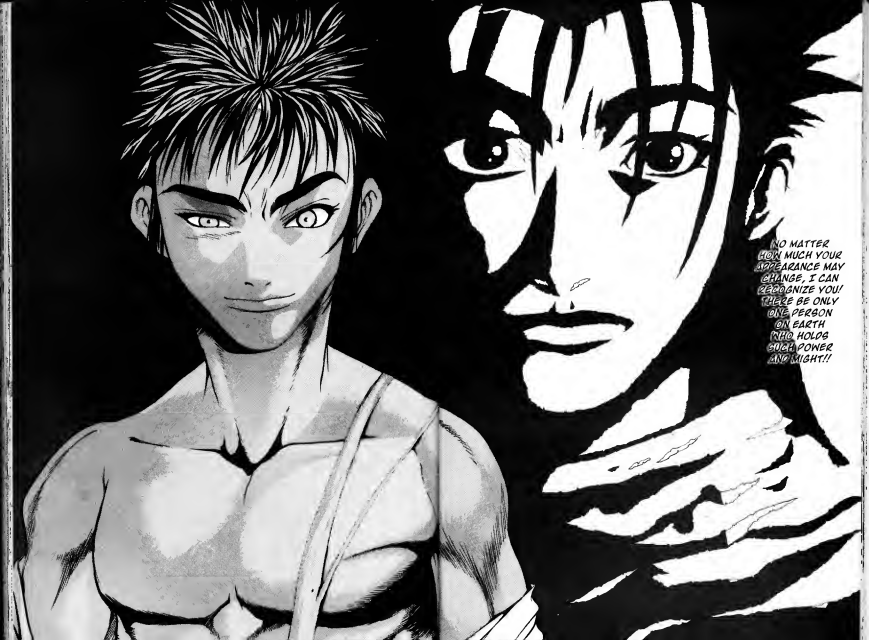
THAT
MAN'S NAME
BE NOT
SACHUNSA.



BROTHER
WOOD
CARVING...
WHAT DO
YOU MEAN?



THAT STANCE, THAT
FEARLESS POSTURE THAT
DAVES MOUNTAINS TO
NOT MOVE ASIDE...



NO MATTER
HOW MUCH YOUR
APPEARANCE MAY
CHANGE, I CAN
RECOGNIZE YOU!
THERE BE ONLY
ONE PERSON
ON EARTH
WHO HOLDS
SUCH POWER
AND MIGHT!!

THE LEGENDARY HERO...
SOMA!!



BLADE OF HEAVEN VOL 8

END

IN THE NEXT BONE-CRUNCHING VOLUME OF

BLADE OF HEAVEN

AS SACHUNSA BATTLES HIS WAY THROUGH THE HERO COMPETITION, THE EVIL MAJEH MAKES HIS MOVE IN A DEADLY POWER PLAY. ONLY SACHUNSA SEES THROUGH THE PLOT, AND FINDS HIMSELF CAST IN THE ROLE OF COWARD AND TRAITOR, AS HE STANDS ALONE AGAINST THE DEMON. BUT SACHUNSA (THE REINCARNATED LEGENDARY WARRIOR SOMA) IS ABOUT TO GET SOME UNEXPECTED HELP FROM A FEW OLD-AND NEARLY FORGOTTEN-FRIENDS!

GET READY TO RUMBLE IN

BLADE OF HEAVEN VOLUME 10!





quick release by KickTheKitty